

By: Representative Harness

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 668

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE EACH CIRCUIT, CHANCERY, JUSTICE, MUNICIPAL,
2 COUNTY AND YOUTH COURT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR THE
3 PURPOSE OF PROTECTING JUDGES, STAFF, AND ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC
4 PRESENT IN COURT BUILDINGS DURING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS; TO PROVIDE
5 THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GUIDELINES; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 **SECTION 1.** Each circuit, chancery, justice, municipal,
9 county and youth court shall establish safety guidelines by August
10 1, 2024, that promote the safety of judges, staff, and any person
11 present before, during and after any legal proceedings. The
12 guidelines shall, at a minimum, require:

13 (a) Cameras or a security guard at all entrances and
14 exits;

15 (b) A security guard present for each legal proceeding;

16 (c) A policy that requires annual emergency response
17 training for employees and staff;

18 (d) Fire alarms in each court room and at every
19 entrance and exit of the building; and



20 (e) A firearms policy that is posted at each entrance
21 and exit.

22 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
23 and after its passage.

