

By: Representative Shanks

To: Corrections;  
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 750

1 AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 13-7-1 THROUGH 13-7-49,  
 2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATE THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT  
 3 AND PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION OF A STATE GRAND JURY; TO CREATE NEW  
 4 SECTION 13-7-51, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CODIFY AND EXTEND  
 5 THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT; TO AMEND  
 6 SECTION 99-11-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE DATE OF  
 7 THE REPEALER ON THE PROVISION OF LAW RELATING TO VENUE FOR  
 8 INDICTMENTS BY THE STATE GRAND JURY; TO AMEND SECTION 27, CHAPTER  
 9 553, LAWS OF 1993, AS LAST AMENDED BY CHAPTER 526, LAWS OF 2014,  
 10 TO DELETE THE REPEALER, WHICH IS BEING CODIFIED IN NEW SECTION  
 11 13-7-51, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE SECTION  
 12 OF THE ENABLING LEGISLATION THAT CREATED THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT;  
 13 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

15 **SECTION 1.** Section 13-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 16 reenacted as follows:

17 13-7-1. This chapter may be cited as the "State Grand Jury  
 18 Act," and any state grand jury which may be convened as provided  
 19 herein shall be known as "State Grand Jury of Mississippi."

20 **SECTION 2.** Section 13-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 21 reenacted as follows:

22 13-7-3. For purposes of this chapter:



23 (a) The phrase "Attorney General or his designee" also  
24 includes:

- 25 (i) The Attorney General or his designees;  
26 (ii) The Attorney General and his designee or  
27 designees.

28 (b) The term "impaneling judge" means any senior  
29 circuit court judge of any circuit court district who, upon  
30 petition by the Attorney General, impanels a state grand jury  
31 under the provisions of this chapter and shall also include any  
32 successor to such judge as provided by law.

33 **SECTION 3.** Section 13-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
34 reenacted as follows:

35 13-7-5. There is established a state grand jury system.  
36 Each state grand jury shall consist of twenty (20) persons who may  
37 be impaneled and who may meet at any suitable location within the  
38 state as designated by the impaneling judge. Fifteen (15) members  
39 of a state grand jury constitute a quorum.

40 **SECTION 4.** Section 13-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
41 reenacted as follows:

42 13-7-7. (1) The jurisdiction of a state grand jury  
43 impaneled under this chapter extends throughout the state. The  
44 subject matter jurisdiction of a state grand jury in all cases is  
45 limited to offenses involving any and all conduct made unlawful by  
46 the Mississippi Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other  
47 provision of law involving narcotics, dangerous drugs or



48 controlled substances, or any crime arising out of or in  
49 connection with a crime involving narcotics, dangerous drugs or  
50 controlled substances, and crimes involving any attempt, aiding,  
51 abetting, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the  
52 aforementioned crimes if the crimes occur within more than one (1)  
53 circuit court district or have transpired or are transpiring or  
54 have significance in more than one (1) circuit court district of  
55 this state.

56 (2) Whenever the Attorney General considers it necessary,  
57 and normal investigative or prosecutorial procedures are not  
58 adequate, the Attorney General may petition in writing to the  
59 senior circuit court judge of any circuit court district in this  
60 state for an order impaneling a state grand jury. For the  
61 purposes of this chapter, such judge shall be referred to as the  
62 impaneling judge. The petition must allege the following:

63 (a) The type of offenses to be inquired into;

64 (b) That the state grand jury has jurisdiction to  
65 consider such matters;

66 (c) That the offenses to be inquired into have occurred  
67 within more than one (1) circuit court district or have transpired  
68 or are transpiring or have significance in more than one (1)  
69 circuit court district of this state;

70 (d) That the Attorney General has conferred with the  
71 Commissioner of Public Safety and the Director of the Mississippi



72 Bureau of Narcotics and that each of such officials join in the  
73 petition; and

74 (e) That the Attorney General has conferred with the  
75 appropriate district attorney for each jurisdiction in which the  
76 crime or crimes are alleged to have occurred.

77 (3) The impaneling judge, after due consideration of the  
78 petition, may order the impanelment of a state grand jury in  
79 accordance with the petition for a term of twelve (12) calendar  
80 months. Upon petition by the Attorney General, the impaneling  
81 judge, by order, may extend the term of that state grand jury for  
82 a period of six (6) months, but the term of that state grand jury,  
83 including any extension thereof, shall not exceed two (2) years.

84 (4) The impaneling judge shall preside over the state grand  
85 jury until its discharge.

86 (5) The impaneling judge may discharge a state grand jury  
87 prior to the end of its original term or any extensions thereof,  
88 upon a determination that its business has been completed, or upon  
89 the request of the Attorney General.

90 (6) If, at any time within the original term of any state  
91 grand jury or any extension thereof, the impaneling judge  
92 determines that the state grand jury is not conducting  
93 investigative activity within its jurisdiction or proper  
94 investigative activity, the impaneling judge may limit the  
95 investigations so that the investigation conforms with the  
96 jurisdiction of the state grand jury and existing law or he may



97 discharge the state grand jury. An order issued pursuant to this  
98 subsection or under subsection (5) of this section shall not  
99 become effective less than ten (10) days after the date on which  
100 it is issued and actual notice given to the Attorney General and  
101 the foreman of the state grand jury, and may be appealed by the  
102 Attorney General to the Supreme Court. If an appeal from the  
103 order is made, the state grand jury, except as otherwise ordered  
104 by the Supreme Court, shall continue to exercise its powers  
105 pending disposition of the appeal.

106       **SECTION 5.** Section 13-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
107 reenacted as follows:

108       13-7-9. A state grand jury may return indictments  
109 irrespective of the county or judicial district where the offense  
110 is committed. If an indictment is returned, it must be certified  
111 and transferred for prosecution to the county designated by the  
112 impaneling judge. The powers and duties of and the law applicable  
113 to county grand juries apply to the state grand jury, except when  
114 such powers and duties and applicable law are inconsistent with  
115 the provisions of this chapter.

116       **SECTION 6.** Section 13-7-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
117 reenacted as follows:

118       13-7-11. The Attorney General or his designee shall attend  
119 sessions of a state grand jury and shall serve as its legal  
120 advisor. The Attorney General or his designee shall examine



121 witnesses, present evidence, and draft indictments and reports  
122 upon the direction of a state grand jury.

123         **SECTION 7.** Section 13-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
124 reenacted as follows:

125             13-7-13. The impaneling judge shall appoint a circuit clerk  
126 who shall serve as the clerk of the state grand jury. The  
127 compensation of the state grand jury clerk shall be paid out of  
128 any available funds appropriated for that purpose.

129         **SECTION 8.** Section 13-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
130 reenacted as follows:

131             13-7-15. After the impaneling judge orders a term for the  
132 state grand jury on petition of the Attorney General, the  
133 impaneling judge shall order that the circuit clerk for each  
134 county shall proceed to draw at random from the jury box as  
135 provided by Section 13-5-26, the name of one (1) voter of such  
136 county for each two thousand (2,000) voters or fraction thereof  
137 registered in such county and shall place these names on a list.  
138 The circuit clerk shall not disqualify or excuse any individual  
139 whose name is drawn. When the list is compiled, the clerk of the  
140 circuit court for each county shall forward the list to the clerk  
141 of the state grand jury. Upon receipt of all the lists from the  
142 clerks of the circuit courts, the clerk of the state grand jury  
143 shall place all the names so received upon a list which shall be  
144 known as the master list.



145           The impaneling judge shall order the clerk of the state grand  
146 jury to produce the master list and shall direct the random  
147 drawing of the names of one hundred (100) persons from the master  
148 list. The names drawn shall be given to the clerk of the state  
149 grand jury who shall cause each person drawn for service to be  
150 served with a summons either personally by the sheriff of the  
151 county where the juror resides or by mail, addressed to the juror  
152 at his usual residence, business or post office address, requiring  
153 him to report for state grand jury service at a specified time and  
154 place as designated by the impaneling judge. From the one hundred  
155 (100) persons summoned, a state grand jury shall be drawn for that  
156 term consisting of twenty (20) persons. State grand jurors must  
157 be drawn in the same manner as jurors are drawn for service on the  
158 county grand jury.

159           All qualified persons shall be liable to serve as state grand  
160 jurors, unless excused by the court for one (1) of the following  
161 causes:

162                   (a) When the juror is ill, or when on account of  
163 serious illness in the juror's family, the presence of the juror  
164 is required at home;

165                   (b) When the juror's attendance would cause a serious  
166 financial loss to the juror or to the juror's business; or

167                   (c) When the juror is under an emergency, fairly  
168 equivalent to those mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs (a) and  
169 (b).



170 An excuse of illness under paragraph (a) may be made to the  
171 state grand jury clerk outside of open court by providing the  
172 clerk with either a certificate of a licensed physician or an  
173 affidavit of the juror, stating that the juror is ill or that  
174 there is a serious illness in the juror's family. The test of an  
175 excuse under paragraph (b) shall be whether, if the juror were  
176 incapacitated by illness or otherwise for a week, some other  
177 persons would be available or could reasonably be procured to  
178 carry on the business for the week, and the test of an excuse  
179 under paragraph (c) shall be such as to be the fair equivalent,  
180 under the circumstances of that prescribed under paragraph (b).  
181 In cases under paragraphs (b) and (c) the excuse must be made by  
182 the juror, in open court, under oath.

183 It shall be unlawful for any employer or other person to  
184 persuade or attempt to persuade any juror to avoid jury service,  
185 or to intimidate or to threaten any juror in that respect. So to  
186 do shall be deemed an interference with the administration of  
187 justice and a contempt of court and punishable as such.

188 Every citizen over sixty-five (65) years of age shall be  
189 exempt from service if he claims the privilege. No qualified  
190 juror shall be excluded because of such reason, but the same shall  
191 be a personal privilege to be claimed by any person selected for  
192 state grand jury duty. Any citizen over sixty-five (65) years of  
193 age may claim this personal privilege outside of open court by





194 providing the clerk of court with information that allows the  
195 clerk to determine the validity of the claim.

196         The state grand jurors shall be charged by the impaneling  
197 judge as to their authority and responsibility under the law and  
198 each juror shall be sworn pursuant to Section 13-5-45. Nothing in  
199 this section shall be construed as limiting the right of the  
200 Attorney General or his designee to request that a potential state  
201 grand juror be excused for cause. The jury selection process  
202 shall be conducted by the impaneling judge. Jurors of a state  
203 grand jury shall receive reimbursement for travel and mileage as  
204 provided for state employees by Section 25-3-41 and shall be paid  
205 per diem compensation in the amount provided by Section 25-3-69.  
206 All compensation and expenses for meals and lodging of state grand  
207 jurors shall be paid out of any available funds appropriated for  
208 that purpose.

209         **SECTION 9.** Section 13-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
210 reenacted as follows:

211         13-7-17. The impaneling judge shall appoint one (1) of the  
212 jurors to be a foreman and another to be deputy foreman. During  
213 the absence of the foreman, the deputy foreman shall act as  
214 foreman. The foreman and deputy foreman shall be sworn pursuant  
215 to Section 13-5-45.

216         **SECTION 10.** Section 13-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
217 reenacted as follows:



218 13-7-19. After the state grand jurors shall have been sworn  
219 and impaneled, no objections shall be raised by plea or otherwise,  
220 to the state grand jury, but the impaneling of the state grand  
221 jury shall be conclusive evidence of its competency and  
222 qualifications. However, any party interested may challenge the  
223 jury, except to the array, for fraud.

224 **SECTION 11.** Section 13-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
225 reenacted as follows:

226 13-7-21. The clerk of the state grand jury, upon request of  
227 the Attorney General or his designee, shall issue subpoenas, or  
228 subpoenas duces tecum to compel individuals, documents or other  
229 materials to be brought from anywhere in the state or another  
230 state to a state grand jury. In addition, a state grand jury may  
231 proceed in the same manner as is provided for by law in relation  
232 to the issuance of subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum; however,  
233 the provisions of such law shall not be considered a limitation  
234 upon this section, but shall be supplemental thereto. The  
235 subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum may be for investigative  
236 purposes and for the retention of documents or other materials so  
237 subpoenaed for proper criminal proceedings. Any investigator  
238 employed by the Attorney General or any law enforcement officer  
239 with appropriate jurisdiction is empowered to serve such subpoenas  
240 and subpoenas duces tecum and receive such documents and other  
241 materials for return to a state grand jury. Any person violating  
242 a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued pursuant to this



243 chapter, or who fails to fully answer all questions put to him  
244 before proceedings of the state grand jury whenever the response  
245 thereto is not privileged or otherwise protected by law, including  
246 the granting of immunity as authorized by this chapter, or any  
247 other law, may be punished by the impaneling judge for contempt  
248 provided the response is not privileged or otherwise protected by  
249 law. The Attorney General or his designee may petition the  
250 impaneling judge to compel compliance by the person alleged to  
251 have committed the violation or who has failed to answer. If the  
252 impaneling judge considers compliance is warranted, he may order  
253 compliance and may punish the individual for contempt, as provided  
254 in Section 9-1-17, where the compliance does not occur. The clerk  
255 of the state grand jury may also issue subpoenas and subpoenas  
256 duces tecum to compel individuals, documents or other materials to  
257 be brought from anywhere in the state to the trial of any  
258 indictment returned by a state grand jury or the trial of any  
259 civil forfeiture action arising out of an investigation conducted  
260 by a state grand jury.

261 **SECTION 12.** Section 13-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
262 reenacted as follows:

263 13-7-23. Once a state grand jury has entered into a term,  
264 the petition and order establishing and impaneling the state grand  
265 jury may be amended as often as necessary and appropriate so as to  
266 expand the areas of inquiry authorized by the order or to add  
267 additional areas of inquiry thereto, consistent with the



268 provisions of this chapter. The procedures for amending this  
269 authority are the same as those for filing the original petition  
270 and order.

271 **SECTION 13.** Section 13-7-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
272 reenacted as follows:

273 13-7-25. A court reporter shall record either  
274 stenographically or by use of an electronic recording device, all  
275 state grand jury proceedings except when the state grand jury is  
276 deliberating or voting. Subject to the limitations of Section  
277 13-7-29 and any rule of court, a defendant has the right to review  
278 and to reproduce the stenographically or electronically recorded  
279 materials. Transcripts of the recorded testimony or proceedings  
280 must be made when requested by the Attorney General or his  
281 designee. An unintentional failure of any recording to reproduce  
282 all or any portion of the testimony or proceeding shall not affect  
283 the validity of the prosecution. The recording or reporter's  
284 notes or any transcript prepared therefrom and all books, papers,  
285 records and correspondence produced before the state grand jury  
286 shall remain in the custody and control of the Attorney General or  
287 his designee unless otherwise ordered by the court in a particular  
288 case.

289 **SECTION 14.** Section 13-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
290 reenacted as follows:



291 13-7-27. The foreman shall administer an oath or affirmation  
292 in the manner prescribed by law to any witness who testifies  
293 before a state grand jury.

294 **SECTION 15.** Section 13-7-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
295 reenacted as follows:

296 13-7-29. (1) State grand jury proceedings are secret, and a  
297 state grand juror shall not disclose the nature or substance of  
298 the deliberations or vote of the state grand jury. The only  
299 persons who may be present in the state grand jury room when a  
300 state grand jury is in session, except for deliberations and  
301 voting, are the state grand jurors, the Attorney General or his  
302 designees, an interpreter if necessary and the witness testifying.  
303 A state grand juror, the Attorney General or his designees, any  
304 interpreter used and any person to whom disclosure is made  
305 pursuant to subsection (2) (b) of this section may not disclose the  
306 testimony of a witness examined before a state grand jury or other  
307 evidence received by it except when directed by a court for the  
308 purpose of:

309 (a) Ascertaining whether it is consistent with the  
310 testimony given by the witness before the court in any subsequent  
311 criminal proceedings;

312 (b) Determining whether the witness is guilty of  
313 perjury;



314 (c) Assisting local, state or federal law enforcement  
315 or investigating agencies, including another grand jury, in  
316 investigating crimes under their investigative jurisdiction;

317 (d) Providing the defendant the materials to which he  
318 is entitled pursuant to Section 13-7-25; or

319 (e) Complying with constitutional, statutory or other  
320 legal requirements or to further justice.

321 If the court orders disclosure of matters occurring before a  
322 state grand jury, the disclosure shall be made in that manner, at  
323 that time, and under those conditions as the court directs.

324 (2) In addition, disclosure of testimony of a witness  
325 examined before a state grand jury or other evidence received by  
326 it may be made without being directed by a court to:

327 (a) The Attorney General or his designees for use in  
328 the performance of their duties; or

329 (b) Those governmental personnel, including personnel  
330 of the state or its political subdivisions, as are considered  
331 necessary by the Attorney General or his designee to assist in the  
332 performance of their duties to enforce the criminal laws of the  
333 state; however, any person to whom matters are disclosed under  
334 this paragraph (b) shall not utilize the state grand jury material  
335 for purposes other than assisting the Attorney General or his  
336 designee in the performance of their duties to enforce the  
337 criminal laws of this state. The Attorney General or his  
338 designees shall promptly provide the impaneling judge the names of



339 the persons to whom the disclosure has been made and shall certify  
340 that he has advised these persons of their obligations of secrecy  
341 under this section.

342 (3) Nothing in this section affects the attorney-client  
343 relationship. A client has the right to communicate to his  
344 attorney any testimony given by the client to a state grand jury,  
345 any matters involving the client discussed in the client's  
346 presence before a state grand jury and evidence involving the  
347 client received by a proffer to a state grand jury in the client's  
348 presence.

349 (4) Any person violating the provisions of this section is  
350 guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by  
351 a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by a  
352 term of imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or by both such  
353 fine and imprisonment.

354 (5) State grand jurors, the Attorney General and his  
355 designee, any interpreter used and the clerk of the state grand  
356 jury shall be sworn to secrecy and also may be punished for  
357 criminal contempt for violations of this section.

358 **SECTION 16.** Section 13-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
359 reenacted as follows:

360 13-7-31. Except for the prosecution of cases arising from  
361 indictments issued by the state grand jury, the impaneling judge  
362 has jurisdiction to hear all matters arising from the proceedings  
363 of a state grand jury, including, but not limited to, matters



364 related to the impanelment or removal of state grand jurors, the  
365 quashing of subpoenas and the punishment for contempt.

366 **SECTION 17.** Section 13-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
367 reenacted as follows:

368 13-7-33. The Attorney General or his designee shall  
369 coordinate the scheduling of activities of any state grand jury.

370 **SECTION 18.** Section 13-7-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
371 reenacted as follows:

372 13-7-35. (1) In order to return a "True Bill" of  
373 indictment, twelve (12) or more state grand jurors must find that  
374 probable cause exists for the indictment and vote in favor of the  
375 indictment. Upon indictment by a state grand jury, the indictment  
376 shall be returned to the impaneling judge. If the impaneling  
377 judge considers the indictment to be within the authority of the  
378 state grand jury and otherwise in accordance with the provisions  
379 of this chapter, he shall order the clerk of the state grand jury  
380 to certify the indictment and return the indictment to the county  
381 designated by the impaneling judge as the county in which the  
382 indictment shall be tried.

383 (2) Indictments returned by a state grand jury are properly  
384 triable in any county of the state where any of the alleged  
385 conduct occurred. The impaneling judge to whom the indictment is  
386 returned shall designate the county in which the indictment shall  
387 be tried. If a multicount indictment returned by a state grand  
388 jury is properly triable in a single proceeding as otherwise





389 provided by law, all counts may be tried in the county designated  
390 by the impaneling judge notwithstanding the fact that different  
391 counts may have occurred in more than one (1) county.

392 (3) In determining the venue for indictments returned by a  
393 state grand jury, the impaneling judge shall select the county in  
394 which the state and defendant may receive a fair trial before an  
395 impartial jury taking into consideration the totality of the  
396 circumstances of each case.

397 (4) When the indictment has been returned to the circuit  
398 clerk of the county designated by the impaneling judge, the capias  
399 shall be issued as otherwise provided by law. The indictment  
400 shall be kept secret until the defendant is in custody or has been  
401 released pending trial.

402 **SECTION 19.** Section 13-7-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
403 reenacted as follows:

404 13-7-37. If any person asks to be excused from testifying  
405 before a state grand jury or from producing any books, papers,  
406 records, correspondence or other documents before a state grand  
407 jury on the ground that the testimony or evidence required of him  
408 may tend to incriminate him or subject him to any penalty or  
409 forfeiture and such person, notwithstanding such ground, is  
410 directed by the impaneling judge to give the testimony or produce  
411 the evidence, he shall comply with this direction, but no  
412 testimony so given or evidence produced may be received against  
413 him in any criminal action, investigation or criminal proceeding.



414 No individual testifying or producing evidence or documents is  
415 exempt from prosecution or punishment for any perjury committed by  
416 him while so testifying, and the testimony or evidence given or  
417 produced is admissible against him upon any criminal action,  
418 criminal investigation or criminal proceeding concerning this  
419 perjury; however, any individual may execute, acknowledge and file  
420 a statement with the appropriate court expressly waiving immunity  
421 or privilege in respect to any testimony given or produced and  
422 thereupon the testimony or evidence given or produced may be  
423 received or produced before any judge or justice, court tribunal,  
424 grand jury or otherwise, and if so received or produced, the  
425 individual is not entitled to any immunity or privilege on account  
426 of any testimony he may give or evidence produced.

427       **SECTION 20.** Section 13-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
428 reenacted as follows:

429       13-7-39. Records, orders and subpoenas related to state  
430 grand jury proceedings shall be kept under seal to the extent and  
431 for the time that is necessary to prevent disclosure of matters  
432 occurring before a state grand jury.

433       **SECTION 21.** Section 13-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
434 reenacted as follows:

435       13-7-41. The Attorney General shall make available suitable  
436 space for state grand juries to meet. The Mississippi Department  
437 of Public Safety and the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics may



438 provide such services as required by the Attorney General and the  
439 state grand juries.

440         **SECTION 22.** Section 13-7-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
441 reenacted as follows:

442             13-7-43. The Supreme Court may promulgate rules as are  
443 necessary for the operation of the state grand jury system  
444 established by this chapter.

445         **SECTION 23.** Section 13-7-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
446 reenacted as follows:

447             13-7-45. If any part of this chapter is declared invalid,  
448 unenforceable or unconstitutional by a court of competent  
449 jurisdiction, that part shall be severable from the remaining  
450 portions of this chapter, which portions shall remain in full  
451 force and effect as if the invalid, unenforceable or  
452 unconstitutional portion were omitted.

453         **SECTION 24.** Section 13-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
454 reenacted as follows:

455             13-7-47. This chapter applies to offenses committed both  
456 before and after its effective date.

457         **SECTION 25.** Section 13-7-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
458 reenacted as follows:

459             13-7-49. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as  
460 amending, repealing or superseding any other law of this state  
461 governing the powers and duties of county grand jurors, district  
462 attorneys or law enforcement agencies or other officials with



463 regard to their authority to investigate, indict or prosecute  
464 offenses that are prescribed by this chapter as within the  
465 jurisdiction of the state grand jury.

466 **SECTION 26.** The following shall be codified as Section  
467 13-7-51, Mississippi Code of 1972:

468 13-7-51. This chapter shall stand repealed on July 1, 2027.

469 **SECTION 27.** Section 99-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
470 amended as follows:

471 99-11-3. (1) The local jurisdiction of all offenses, unless  
472 otherwise provided by law, shall be in the county where committed.  
473 But, if on the trial the evidence makes it doubtful in which of  
474 several counties, including that in which the indictment or  
475 affidavit alleges the offense was committed, such doubt shall not  
476 avail to procure the acquittal of the defendant.

477 (2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall  
478 not apply to indictments returned by a state grand jury. The  
479 venue of trials for indictments returned by a state grand jury  
480 shall be as provided by the State Grand Jury Act. This subsection  
481 shall stand repealed from and after July 1, \* \* \* 2027.

482 **SECTION 28.** Section 27, Chapter 553, Laws of 1993, as  
483 amended by Chapter 382, Laws of 1998, as amended by Chapter 480,  
484 Laws of 1999, as amended by Chapter 471, Laws of 2002, as amended  
485 by Chapter 506, Laws of 2005, as amended by Chapter 337, Laws of  
486 2011, as amended by Chapter 526, Laws of 2014, is amended as  
487 follows:



488           Section 27. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
489 and after its passage \* \* \*.

490           **SECTION 29.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
491 and after July 1, 2024.

