

By: Representative Banks

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 1097

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
 2 DESIGNATE JUNE 19 AS JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY; DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER
 3 16 AS B.B. KING DAY; DESIGNATING APRIL 4 AS MUDDY WATERS DAY;
 4 DESIGNATING JUNE 10 AS HOWLIN' WOLF DAY; CLARIFYING WHEN A LEGAL
 5 HOLIDAY WILL BE CELEBRATED IF THE HOLIDAY FALLS ON A SATURDAY OR
 6 SUNDAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 9 amended as follows:

10 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
 11 of this section, the following are declared to be legal
 12 holidays * * *:

13 (a) The first day of January, designated as New Year's
 14 Day;

15 (b) The third Monday of January, designated as both
 16 Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
 17 birthday;

18 (c) The third Monday of February, designated as George
 19 Washington's birthday;



20 (d) The last Monday of April, designated as * * *
21 Confederate Memorial Day * * *;

22 (e) The last Monday of May, designated as both National
23 Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis' birthday;

24 (f) The nineteenth day of June, designated as
25 Juneteenth Freedom Day;

26 (g) The fourth day of July, designated as Independence
27 Day;

28 (h) The first Monday of September, designated as Labor
29 Day;

30 (i) The eleventh day of November, designated as
31 Armistice or Veterans' Day;

32 (j) The day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of
33 Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to
34 correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United
35 States, designated as Thanksgiving Day; and

36 (k) The twenty-fifth day of December, designated as
37 Christmas Day.

38 * * * If any legal holiday * * * falls on a Saturday or
39 Sunday, then the next following * * * Monday, or another day
40 declared by proclamation of the Governor as the day to celebrate
41 the holiday, shall be a legal holiday.

42 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
43 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
44 Monday in January, designated as both Robert E. Lee's and Martin



45 Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and the eleventh day of November,
46 designated as Armistice or Veterans' Day, the governing
47 authorities of any municipality or county may declare, by order
48 spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or any one (1) other day
49 during the year, to be a legal holiday.

50 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
51 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
52 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
53 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
54 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
55 holiday.

56 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
57 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
58 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
59 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
60 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
61 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
62 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
63 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
64 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and
65 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
66 holiday.

67 (5) Armistice Day or Veterans' Day shall be observed by
68 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
69 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school



70 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed
71 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen
72 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in
73 honor of Armistice or Veterans' Day. The superintendent of
74 schools is also authorized to permit the school band and its
75 director(s) at any public school in the district to perform at
76 Armistice or Veterans' Day exercises in the school district upon
77 the request of public officials or veterans associations without
78 loss of any program credit by participating students and without
79 loss of leave by participating school personnel.

80 (6) September 16 is declared to be B.B. King Day in
81 recognition and appreciation of Riley B. King, famously known as
82 B.B. King, and his many contributions, international recognition,
83 and the rich legacy left to us by Riley B. King. This day shall
84 be a day of recognition and observation and shall not be
85 recognized as a legal holiday.

86 (7) April 4 is declared to be Muddy Waters Day in
87 recognition and appreciation of McKinley Morganfield, most
88 famously known as Muddy Waters, and his many contributions,
89 international recognition, and the rich legacy left to us by Muddy
90 Waters. This day shall be a day of recognition and observation
91 and shall not be recognized as a legal holiday.

92 (8) June 10 is declared to be Howlin' Wolf Day, in
93 recognition and appreciation of Chester Burnett, most famously
94 known as Howlin' Wolf, and his many contributions, international



95 recognition, and the rich legacy left to us by Howlin Wolf. This
96 day shall be a day of recognition and observation, and shall not
97 be recognized as a legal holiday.

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

