By: Senator(s) Barrett, McMahan, Rhodes, Berry, Butler

To: Highways and Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2250

- AN ACT TO CREATE SECTION 63-7-105, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS THAT RESULT IN THE MOTOR VEHICLES' FRONT FENDERS BEING RAISED FOUR (4) OR MORE INCHES GREATER THAN THE HEIGHT OF THE REAR FENDERS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE 5 MANNER OF MEASURING THE HEIGHT OF THE FENDERS, TO DEFINE RELEVANT 6 TERMS, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; AND FOR RELATED 7 PURPOSES.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 9 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section
- 10 63-7-105, Mississippi Code of 1972:
- 11 63-7-105. (1) For purposes of this section:
- 12 (a) The height of the fender shall be a vertical
- 13 measurement from, and perpendicular to, the ground, through the
- 14 centerline of the wheel, and to the bottom of the fender.
- 15 (b) "Fender" means the pressed and formed part mounted
- 16 over the road wheels of a motor vehicle to reduce the splashing of
- 17 mud, water or similar substances.
- 18 "Squatted vehicles" means vehicles whose front
- 19 fenders have been raised four (4) or more inches greater than the

- 20 rear fenders. The described modification makes a vehicle appear
- 21 as if it is "squatting" on its back tires.
- 22 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to drive a passenger
- 23 motor vehicle, including vehicles commonly referred to as pickup
- 24 trucks, on the streets or highways of this State if, by alteration
- 25 of the suspension, frame or chassis, the height of the front
- 26 fender is raised four (4) or more inches greater than the height
- 27 of the rear fender.
- 28 (3) A person who violates the provisions of this subsection
- 29 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction:
- 30 (a) for a first offense, shall be fined One Hundred
- 31 Dollars (\$100.00);
- 32 (b) for a second offense, shall be fined Two Hundred
- 33 Dollars (\$200.00); and
- 34 (c) for a third or subsequent offense, shall be fined
- 35 Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) and have his or her license
- 36 suspended by the Commission of Public Safety for a period of
- 37 twelve (12) months from the date of conviction.
- 38 (4) Only offenses which occur within five (5) years of each
- 39 other, including and immediately preceding the date of the last
- 40 offense, shall constitute a prior offense within the meaning of
- 41 this subsection.
- 42 (5) The penalties for this section shall take effect one
- 43 hundred eighty (180) days after the effective date. For a period
- 44 of one hundred eighty (180) days after the effective date, state

- 45 and local law enforcement officers shall only issue warning
- 46 tickets for a violation of the provisions of this section. From
- 47 and after January 27, 2025, state and local law enforcement
- 48 officers shall issue tickets that assess penalties, as outlined in
- 49 subsection (3) of this section, to drivers of squatted vehicles.
- 50 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 51 and after July 1, 2024.