

By: Representative Paden

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 478

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT IF ANY LEGAL HOLIDAY FALLS ON A TUESDAY, THEN THE DAY
3 BEFORE SUCH TUESDAY SHALL ALSO BE A LEGAL HOLIDAY; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

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

8 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
9 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
10 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
11 of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
12 Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
13 birthday); the last Monday of April (Confederate Memorial Day);
14 the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis'
15 birthday); the fourth day of July (Independence Day); the first
16 Monday of September (Labor Day); the eleventh day of November
17 (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the
18 Governor of Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be
19 fixed to correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the

20 United States (Thanksgiving Day); and the twenty-fifth day of
21 December (Christmas Day).

22 * * * If any legal holiday * * * falls on a Sunday, then the
23 next following day shall be a legal holiday, and if any legal
24 holiday falls on a Tuesday, then the day before such Tuesday shall
25 also be a legal holiday.

26 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
27 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
28 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Martin Luther
29 King, Jr.'s birthday) and the eleventh day of November (Armistice
30 or Veterans' Day), the governing authorities of any municipality
31 or county may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi
32 Gras Day or any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal
33 holiday.

34 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
35 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
36 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
37 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
38 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
39 holiday.

40 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
41 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
42 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
43 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
44 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's



45 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
46 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
47 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
48 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and
49 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
50 holiday.

51 (5) Armistice Day (Veterans' Day) shall be observed by
52 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
53 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school
54 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed
55 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen
56 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in
57 honor of Armistice (Veterans') Day. The superintendent of schools
58 is also authorized to permit the school band and its director(s)
59 at any public school in the district to perform at Armistice
60 (Veterans') Day exercises in the school district upon the request
61 of public officials or veterans associations without loss of any
62 program credit by participating students and without loss of leave
63 by participating school personnel.

64 (6) The month of March is declared to be "Mississippi
65 Musicians Month" to recognize and celebrate the state's rich
66 musical heritage and to encourage the world to join Mississippi in
67 honoring our musicians and their contributions.

68 (7) In recognition of the service, courage and sacrifice of
69 the valiant service members of the Tuskegee Airmen who served



70 during World War II, the fourth Thursday of March is designated as
71 Tuskegee Airmen Day in Mississippi. This should be a day of
72 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
73 holiday.

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

