

By: Representative Clark

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 533

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY TO
2 CAUSE THE DEPICTION OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG TO BE REMOVED FROM THE
3 STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA; TO AMEND SECTION 55-15-81, MISSISSIPPI CODE
4 OF 1972, WHICH PROHIBITS THE RELOCATION, REMOVAL, DISTURBING,
5 ALTERATION, RENAMING OR REDEDICATION OF CERTAIN HISTORICAL ITEMS,
6 STRUCTURES OR AREAS, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** As soon as practicable on or after the effective
9 date of this act, the Mississippi Department of Archives and
10 History shall cause the depiction of the Confederate flag to be
11 removed from the State Capitol rotunda.

12 **SECTION 2.** Section 55-15-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
13 amended as follows:

14 55-15-81. (1) None of the following items, structures or
15 areas may be relocated, removed, disturbed, altered, renamed or
16 rededicated, unless specifically authorized or directed by an act
17 of the Legislature: Any Revolutionary War, War of 1812,
18 Mexican-American War, War Between the States, Spanish-American
19 War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian
20 Gulf War, War in Iraq or Native American War's statues, monuments,

21 memorials or nameplates (plaques), which have been erected on
22 public property of the state or any of its political subdivisions,
23 such as local, municipal or county owned public areas, and any
24 statues, monuments, memorials, nameplates (plaques), schools,
25 streets, bridges, buildings, parks preserves, reserves or other
26 public items, structure or areas of the state or any of its
27 political subdivisions, such as, local, municipal or county owned
28 public areas, which has been dedicated in memory of, or named for,
29 any historical military figure, historical military event,
30 military organization or military unit.

31 (2) No person may prevent the public body responsible for
32 maintaining any of the items, structures or areas described above
33 from taking proper measures and exercising proper means for the
34 protection, preservation, care, repair or restoration of those
35 items, structures or areas. The governing body may move the
36 memorial to a more suitable location if it is determined that the
37 location is more appropriate to displaying the monument.

38 (3) This section shall not apply to items, structures or
39 areas located on property owned or acquired by the Mississippi
40 Transportation Commission which may interfere with the
41 construction, maintenance or operation of public transportation
42 facilities.

43 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
44 and after July 1, 2025.

