

By: Representative Porter

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 578

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR CERTAIN
2 TAXPAYERS THAT EMPLOY PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM
3 INCARCERATION FOR CONVICTION OF A MISDEMEANOR OR FOR CONVICTION OF
4 A FELONY OFFENSE FOR A NONVIOLENT CRIME; TO PROVIDE THE AMOUNT OF
5 THE TAX CREDIT; TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT THAT MAY BE
6 CLAIMED IN A TAXABLE YEAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a
9 taxpayer that employs a person who has been released from
10 incarceration for conviction of a misdemeanor and/or for
11 conviction of a felony offense for a nonviolent crime shall be
12 allowed a credit against the taxes imposed under this chapter.
13 The tax credit authorized in this section shall be available only
14 to a taxpayer who is a business enterprise engaged in commercial,
15 industrial or professional activities and operating as a
16 corporation, limited liability company, partnership or sole
17 proprietorship. The credit shall be for an amount equal to One
18 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each person so employed during a
19 taxable year. In order to be eligible to claim a tax credit for
20 an employee, the taxpayer must employ the employee for at least



21 nine (9) months during the taxable year for which the credit is
22 claimed. The amount of credit that may be utilized by a taxpayer
23 in a taxable year shall not exceed the total tax liability of the
24 taxpayer for the taxes imposed under this chapter for the taxable
25 year. Any tax credit claimed under this section but not used in
26 any taxable year may be carried forward for five (5) consecutive
27 years from the close of the tax year in which the credits were
28 earned. For the purposes of this section, the term "nonviolent
29 crime" means and has the same definition as that term has in
30 Section 47-7-3.

31 (2) The tax credit provided for in this section shall be in
32 addition to any other credit authorized under law.

33 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a new
34 section in Chapter 7, Title 27, Mississippi Code of 1972.

35 **SECTION 3.** Nothing in this act shall affect or defeat any
36 claim, assessment, appeal, suit, right or cause of action for
37 taxes due or accrued under the income tax laws before the date on
38 which this act becomes effective, whether such claims,
39 assessments, appeals, suits or actions have been begun before the
40 date on which this act becomes effective or are begun thereafter;
41 and the provisions of the income tax laws are expressly continued
42 in full force, effect and operation for the purpose of the
43 assessment, collection and enrollment of liens for any taxes due
44 or accrued and the execution of any warrant under such laws before
45 the date on which this act becomes effective, and for the



46 imposition of any penalties, forfeitures or claims for failure to
47 comply with such laws.

48 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
49 and after January 1, 2025.

