

By: Representative McLean

To: Judiciary A

## HOUSE BILL NO. 926

1       AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 97-35-23 AND 97-35-25, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE PENALTIES FOR OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC STREETS  
3 AND ROADWAYS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5       **SECTION 1.** Section 97-35-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7       97-35-23. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person or  
8 persons to intentionally obstruct, or interfere with the normal or  
9 ordinary free use and passage of vehicles of or on, any public  
10 street or highway provided for use by vehicular traffic, or for  
11 any person or persons to intentionally obstruct, or interfere with  
12 the normal or ordinary free use and passage of pedestrians of or  
13 on any public sidewalk provided for foot travel by pedestrians,  
14 and any person or persons who so do shall be guilty of a \* \* \*  
15 felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine  
16 of not \* \* \* less than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
17 (1,500.00), or by imprisonment in the \* \* \* custody of the



18     Department of Corrections for not less than one (1) year nor more  
19     than two (2) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

20         (2) The provisions of this section are supplementary to the  
21 provisions of any other statute of this state.

22         **SECTION 2.** Section 97-35-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
23 amended as follows:

24         97-35-25. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person or  
25 persons to \* \* \* willfully obstruct the free, convenient and  
26 normal use of any public sidewalk, street, highway, alley,  
27 road \* \* \* or other passageway by impeding, hindering, stifling,  
28 retarding or restraining traffic or passage thereon, and any  
29 person or persons violating the provisions of this section shall  
30 be guilty of a \* \* \* felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall be  
31 punished by a fine of not \* \* \* less than \* \* \* One Thousand Five  
32 Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) or by confinement in the \* \* \* custody  
33 of the Department of Corrections for not less than one (1) year  
34 nor more than two (2) years, or by both such fine and  
35 imprisonment.

36         (2) The provisions of this section are supplementary to the  
37 provisions of any other statute of this state.

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

