

By: Representative Banks

To: Rules

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1007

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 DESIGNATE THE LAST MONDAY OF APRIL AS CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL DAY;  
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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



correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United States (Thanksgiving Day); and the twenty-fifth day of December (Christmas Day). In the event any holiday hereinbefore declared legal shall fall on Sunday, then the next following day shall be a legal holiday.

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

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

(4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto, who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's



44 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the  
45 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of  
46 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and  
47 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal  
48 holiday.

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

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

66 (7) In recognition of the service, courage and sacrifice of  
67 the valiant service members of the Tuskegee Airmen who served  
68 during World War II, the fourth Thursday of March is designated as



69 Tuskegee Airmen Day in Mississippi. This should be a day of  
70 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal  
71 holiday.

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

