

By: Representative Summers

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1420

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-7-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE PENALTIES FOR TERRORISTIC THREATS MADE AGAINST AN
3 AIRPORT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-7-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 97-7-75. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
8 as the "Mississippi Terroristic Threats Law."

9 (2) (a) A person commits the offense of making a
10 terroristic threat when the person makes a threat to commit a
11 crime of violence or a threat to cause bodily injury to another
12 person if the threat does in fact cause a reasonable expectation
13 or reasonable fear of the imminent commission of an offense and
14 if, in making the threat, the person has the intent to:

15 (i) Intimidate or coerce a civilian population or
16 segment of a civilian population; or

17 (ii) Influence or affect, by intimidation or
18 coercion, the policy or conduct of a unit of government,



19 educational institution, business or segment of the civilian
20 population.

21 (b) It is not a defense to a prosecution under this
22 section that, at the time the defendant made the terroristic
23 threat, the defendant did not have the intent or capability to
24 actually commit the specified offense, nor is it a defense that
25 the threat was not made to a person who was a subject or intended
26 victim of the threatened act.

27 (3) (a) A person convicted of the offense of making a
28 terroristic threat is guilty of a felony punishable by
29 imprisonment in the custody of the Mississippi Department of
30 Corrections for not more than ten (10) years.

31 (b) A person convicted of the offense of making a
32 terroristic threat against an airport shall be guilty of a felony
33 and punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Mississippi
34 Department of Corrections not less than five (5) years.

35 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
36 and after July 1, 2025.

