

By: Representative Owen

To: Youth and Family Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 1520

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 93-1-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE ELECTED OR APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OR MISSISSIPPI SENATE TO SOLEMNIZE THE RIGHTS OF
4 MATRIMONY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 93-1-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 93-1-17. Any minister of the gospel ordained according to
9 the rules of his church or society, in good standing; any Rabbi or
10 other spiritual leader of any other religious body authorized
11 under the rules of such religious body to solemnize rites of
12 matrimony and being in good standing; any judge of the Supreme
13 Court, Court of Appeals, circuit court, chancery court or county
14 court; any elected or appointed member of the Mississippi House of
15 Representatives or Mississippi Senate may solemnize the rites of
16 matrimony between any persons anywhere within this state who shall
17 produce a license granted as herein directed. Justice court
18 judges and members of the boards of supervisors may likewise
19 solemnize the rites of matrimony within their respective counties.



20 Any marriages performed by a mayor of a municipality prior to
21 March 14, 1994, are valid provided such marriages satisfy the
22 requirements of Section 93-1-18.

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

