

By: Senator(s) Blackmon

To: Elections

## SENATE BILL NO. 2055

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 DESIGNATE THE DAYS OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, THE GENERAL  
3 STATE ELECTION, AND THE ELECTION OF A U.S. SENATOR AS LEGAL  
4 HOLIDAYS IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

8 3-3-7. (1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection  
9 (2) of this section, the following are declared to be legal  
10 holidays, viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the  
11 third Monday of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin  
12 Luther King, Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February  
13 (Washington's birthday); the last Monday of April (Confederate  
14 Memorial Day); the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and  
15 Jefferson Davis' birthday); the fourth day of July (Independence  
16 Day); the first Monday of September (Labor Day); the first Tuesday  
17 after the first Monday in November of 2028, and of every fourth  
18 year thereafter (U.S. Presidential Election Day); the first  
19 Tuesday after the first Monday in November of 2027, and of every



fourth year thereafter (General State Election Day); the eleventh day of November (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of 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).

(b) In addition, any day of a general election, whether held as a regular or a special election, on which at least one (1) of Mississippi's two (2) U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot is declared to be a legal holiday.

(c) In the event any holiday \* \* \* declared legal in this subsection (1) 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 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



44 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal  
45 holiday.

46 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in  
47 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,  
48 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by  
49 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of  
50 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's  
51 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's  
52 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the  
53 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of  
54 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and  
55 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal  
56 holiday.

57 (5) Armistice Day (Veterans' Day) shall be observed by  
58 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of  
59 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school  
60 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed  
61 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen  
62 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in  
63 honor of Armistice (Veterans') Day. The superintendent of schools  
64 is also authorized to permit the school band and its director(s)  
65 at any public school in the district to perform at Armistice  
66 (Veterans') Day exercises in the school district upon the request  
67 of public officials or veterans associations without loss of any



68 program credit by participating students and without loss of leave  
69 by participating school personnel.

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

74 (7) In recognition of the service, courage and sacrifice of  
75 the valiant service members of the Tuskegee Airmen who served  
76 during World War II, the fourth Thursday of March is designated as  
77 Tuskegee Airmen Day in Mississippi. This should be a day of  
78 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal  
79 holiday.

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

