

By: Senator(s) Parker

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2578

1 AN ACT TO CREATE SECTION 25-61-11.3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO EXEMPT TEXT MESSAGES FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
3 MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, UNLESS THE MESSAGES ARE RELATED TO
4 THE BUSINESS OF THE PUBLIC BODY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
7 25-61-11.3, Mississippi Code of 1972:

8 25-61-11.3. Text or short message service (SMS) on personal
9 phones or devices are exempt from the public record policy as
10 provided in Section 25-61-2, unless the messages are about public
11 business and either have been prepared by a member of the public
12 body, prepared for a member of the public body, used by a member
13 of the public body, received by a member of the public body,
14 possessed by a member of the public body or controlled by a member
15 of the public body.

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

