

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.

