## Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 916

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

## AMENDMENT NO. 1

## Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

116 **SECTION 1.** As used in Sections 1 through 9 of this act, the 117 following words and phrases have the meanings ascribed in this 118 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

"Brand family" means all styles of cigarettes sold 119 (a) 120 under the same trademark and differentiated from one another by 121 means of additional modifiers or descriptors, including, but not limited to, "menthol," "lights," "kings" and "100s," and includes 122 123 any brand name (alone or in conjunction with any other word), trademark, logo, symbol, motto, selling message, recognizable 124 125 pattern of colors or any other indicia of product identification 126 identical or similar to, or identifiable with, a previously known 127 brand of cigarettes.

(b) "Cigarette" means a product that contains nicotine, is intended to be burned or heated under ordinary conditions of use, and consists of or contains any of the following:

131 (i) Any roll of tobacco wrapped in paper or in any132 substance not containing tobacco;

(ii) Tobacco, in any form, that is functional in the product, which, because of its appearance, the type of tobacco used in the filler, or its packaging and labeling, is likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as a cigarette; or

(iii) Any roll of tobacco wrapped in any substance containing tobacco which, because of its appearance, the type of tobacco used in the filler, or its packaging and labeling, is likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as a cigarette.

142 The term "cigarette" includes roll-your-own tobacco, meaning 143 tobacco which, because of its appearance, type, packaging or 144 labeling, is suitable for use and likely to be offered to, or 145 purchased by, consumers as tobacco for making cigarettes. For 146 purposes of this definition of the term "cigarette," nine 147 one-hundredths (0.09) ounces of roll-your-own tobacco constitute 148 one (1) individual cigarette.

149 (c) "Cigarette manufacturer" or "manufacturer" means an 150 entity that does any of the following:

(i) Manufactures cigarettes anywhere that the manufacturer intends to be sold in the United States, including cigarettes intended to be sold in the United States through an importer;

(ii) Is the first purchaser anywhere, for resale in the United States, of cigarettes manufactured anywhere that the manufacturer does not intend to be sold in the United States; or

158 (iii) Becomes a successor of an entity described 159 in subparagraph (i) or (ii).

160 (d) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue of161 the Department of Revenue.

(e) "Department" means the Department of Revenue.
(f) "Directory" means the state cigarette directory
created and maintained by the commissioner under Section 3 of this
act.

(g) "Distributor" means a person, other than a retailer, who manufactures or produces cigarettes, or who ships, transports or imports cigarettes into this state, or who in any manner acquires or possesses cigarettes and makes a first sale of the cigarettes in the state.

(h) "Importer" means a person, firm, corporation, association or other business entity who imports cigarettes from any state or foreign country for distribution, sale, use or consumption in the state.

(i) "Retailer" means a person, other than a wholesaler,
whose business is that of selling merchandise at retail and who
sells, or offers for sale, cigarettes to a consumer in this state.

(j) "Wholesaler" means a person, firm, corporation,
association or other business entity who sells cigarettes to
retailers in this state for the purpose of resale.

181 <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) Before September 1 of each year, beginning 182 in 2025, each cigarette manufacturer whose cigarettes are sold in 183 this state, whether directly or through an importer, wholesaler,

distributor, retailer or similar intermediary, shall execute and deliver a certification to the commissioner, on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, certifying that the manufacturer is in compliance with Sections 1 through 9 of this act. Each certification must include the following information:

(a) A list of the manufacturer's brand families that are sold in Mississippi, which must be updated by executing and delivering to the commissioner a supplemental certification no later than thirty (30) days before any addition to or modification of the list is to take effect;

(b) Verification that the manufacturer possesses all
orders required by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
which must be current, for the manufacture and sale of the
cigarettes included in the manufacturer's brand families;

(c) Verification that the manufacturer is registered to do business in this state or has a resident agent for service of process, as required under Section 6 of this act; and

(d) All other information and materials specifically
requested by the commissioner in the course of enforcing this
section.

(2) A cigarette manufacturer that is not listed in the directory maintained by the commissioner pursuant to Section 3 of this act must submit an initial certification subject to the same requirements and review process required under this section for annual certifications.

(3) If the certification required under subsection (1) of this section is rejected due to incompleteness or incorrectness, the cigarette manufacturer may not submit supplemental

212 documentation to try to cure the rejection but must execute and 213 deliver an entirely new certification to the commissioner.

(4) Each annual certification form must be accompanied by afee in such amount as may be prescribed by the commissioner.

216 A manufacturer required to submit a certification form (5) 217 under this section must notify the commissioner of any material change to the certification form within thirty (30) days of the 218 change. A material change includes, but is not limited to, any 219 220 order or action by the Food and Drug Administration or any court 221 which affects the ability of the manufacturer's cigarettes to be 222 distributed for commercial distribution or sale in the United 223 States.

(6) A manufacturer that falsely represents any information required by a certification form is guilty of a misdemeanor for each false representation.

227 SECTION 3. (1) Beginning on October 1, 2025, the 228 commissioner shall maintain and make publicly available on the 229 department's website a state cigarette directory listing all 230 cigarette manufacturers that have provided current and accurate 231 certification forms conforming to the requirements of Section 2 of 232 this act and all brand families that are listed in each 233 manufacturer's certification. The commissioner shall update the directory at least monthly to ensure accuracy. The commissioner 234 H. B. 916 PAGE 5

shall establish a process to provide retailers, distributors, wholesalers and importers notice of the initial publication of the directory and subsequently, of changes made to the directory in the prior month.

(2) Neither a manufacturer nor its brand family may be included or retained in the directory if the commissioner determines that:

(a) The manufacturer failed to provide a complete and
accurate certification as required by subsection (1) of this
section;

(b) The manufacturer submitted a certification thatdoes not comply with the requirements of Section 2 of this act;

(c) The manufacturer failed to include with itscertification the payment required by subsection (4) of Section 2;

(d) The manufacturer sold cigarettes in Mississippi
required to be certified under Sections 1 through 9 of this act
during a period when either the manufacturer or the cigarettes
were not certified and listed on the directory; or

(e) The information provided by the manufacturer in its certification is determined by the commissioner to contain false information or material misrepresentations or omissions.

(3) The commissioner shall provide a manufacturer notice and an opportunity to cure deficiencies before removing a manufacturer or its brand family of cigarettes from the directory.

(4) The commissioner may not remove a manufacturer or itsbrand family from the directory before the manufacturer has

received notice of the intended removal from the commissioner setting forth the reasons for the action. Notice is sufficient and deemed to be immediately received by a manufacturer if the notice is sent either electronically or by facsimile to an electronic mail address or facsimile number, as the case may be, provided by the manufacturer in its most recent certification filed under Section 2 of this act.

(5) Upon receipt of the notice required under subsection (4) of this section, the manufacturer, no later than fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of the notice, must cure the deficiencies or otherwise establish that the manufacturer or its brand family should be included in the directory.

(6) The commissioner shall update the directory as necessary in order to correct mistakes and to add or remove a manufacturer or brand family to keep the directory in conformity with the requirements of Sections 1 through 9 of this act.

277 **SECTION 4.** (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and 278 (3) of this section, beginning October 1, 2025, or on the date 279 that the commissioner first makes the directory available for 280 public inspection on the department's website, whichever is later, 281 cigarettes not included in the directory may not be sold for retail sale in Mississippi, either directly or through an 282 283 importer, distributor, wholesaler, retailer or similar 284 intermediary.

(2) (a) Each retailer has sixty (60) days from the date that the commissioner first makes the directory available for H. B. 916 PAGE 7 inspection on the department's website to either sell cigarettes in the retailer's inventory which are not included in the directory or remove those cigarettes from inventory.

(b) Upon the expiration of the initial sixty (60) days after the first date the directory is available on the department's website, a retailer has thirty (30) days following the date of removal of a manufacturer or its brand family from the directory to either sell the cigarettes in the retailer's inventory on the date of removal from the directory or remove those cigarettes from inventory.

(3) (a) Each importer, distributor or wholesaler has sixty (60) days from the date that the commissioner first makes the directory available for inspection on the department's website to remove those cigarettes intended for sale in the state from its inventory.

302 (b) Upon the expiration of the initial sixty (60) days 303 after the first date the directory is available on the 304 department's website, an importer, distributor or wholesaler has 305 thirty (30) days following the date of removal of a manufacturer 306 or its brand family from the directory to remove those cigarettes 307 intended for sale in the state from its inventory.

308 (4) Cigarettes that must be sold or removed from inventory
309 under subsections (2) and (3) of this section because those
310 cigarettes are not included in, or are removed from, the directory
311 may not be purchased or sold for retail sale in Mississippi,
312 either directly or through an importer, distributor, wholesaler,
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313 retailer or similar intermediary, and are subject to seizure, 314 forfeiture and destruction. The cost of the seizure, forfeiture 315 and destruction must be borne by the person from whom the 316 cigarettes are confiscated. The commissioner may store and 317 dispose of the seized cigarettes as appropriate in accordance with 318 applicable federal, state and local laws pertaining to storage and 319 disposal of such products.

320 (5) Cigarettes in the possession of a consumer who has made 321 a bona fide purchase of the cigarettes subject to being seized 322 under this section may not be seized.

323 <u>SECTION 5.</u> (1) In addition to the seizure and destruction 324 of cigarettes being made available for sale in violation of 325 Section 4 of this act, the following penalties apply:

326 A retailer, distributor, wholesaler or importer who (a) 327 sells or offers for sale cigarettes in Mississippi which are not 328 included in the directory is subject to a civil penalty in an 329 amount not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per day for each style of cigarette in a brand family which is offered for 330 331 sale in violation of Sections 1 through 9 of this act until the 332 offending product is removed from the market or properly listed on 333 the directory.

(b) For a second violation, whether involving the same or a different style of cigarettes in a brand family, by the same retailer, distributor, wholesaler or importer occurring within a period of twelve (12) months, the civil penalty must be an amount not less than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) nor more than H. B. 916 PAGE 9 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per day for each style of cigarette in a brand family which is offered for sale in violation of Sections 1 through 9 of this act until the offending product is removed from the market or properly listed on the directory.

343 For a third violation, whether involving the same (C) 344 or a different style of cigarettes in a brand family, by the same 345 retailer, distributor, wholesaler or importer occurring within a period of twelve (12) months after the initial violation, the 346 347 civil penalty must be an amount not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars 348 349 (\$1,500.00) per day for each style of cigarette in a brand family 350 which is offered for sale in violation of Sections 1 through 9 of 351 this act until the offending product is removed from the market or 352 properly listed on the directory.

353 A manufacturer whose cigarettes are not listed in the (2) 354 directory and who causes the products that are not listed to be 355 sold for retail sale in Mississippi, whether directly or through 356 an importer, distributor, wholesaler, retailer or similar 357 intermediary, is subject to a civil penalty of Ten Thousand 358 Dollars (\$10,000.00) per day for each style of cigarette in a 359 brand family which is offered for sale in violation of Sections 1 360 through 9 of this act until the offending product is removed from 361 the market or properly listed on the directory.

362 (3) In an action to enforce Sections 1 through 9 of this363 act, the state is entitled to recover costs, including the costs

364 of investigation, expert witness fees and reasonable attorney 365 fees.

366 As a condition precedent to having its name **SECTION 6.** (1) 367 or its cigarettes listed and retained in the directory maintained 368 by the commissioner pursuant to Section 3 of this act, a 369 manufacturer not registered to do business in the state must 370 appoint and continually engage, without interruption, a registered agent in Mississippi for service of process on whom all process 371 372 and any action or proceeding arising out of the enforcement of 373 Sections 1 through 9 of this act may be served. The manufacturer 374 shall provide to the commissioner the name, address and telephone 375 number of its agent for service of process and any other 376 information relating to its agent which may be requested by the 377 commissioner.

378 (2) As a condition precedent to having its name or its 379 cigarettes listed and retained in the directory maintained by the 380 commissioner pursuant to Section 3 of this act, a manufacturer 381 located outside of the United States shall cause each of its 382 importers of any of its cigarettes to be sold in Mississippi to 383 appoint and continually engage, without interruption, the services 384 of an agent in the state in accordance with this section. A11 obligations of a manufacturer imposed by this section with respect 385 386 to appointment of its agent also apply to importers with respect 387 to appointment of their agents.

388 (3) A manufacturer shall provide written notice to the389 commissioner no later than thirty (30) calendar days before the

390 termination of the authority of an agent appointed pursuant to 391 subsection (1) or (2) of this section. No less than five (5) 392 calendar days before the termination of an existing agent 393 appointment, a manufacturer shall provide to the commissioner the 394 name, address and telephone number of its newly appointed agent 395 for service of process and any other information relating to the 396 new appointment which may be requested by the commissioner. If an 397 agent terminates an agency appointment, the manufacturer must 398 notify the commissioner of the termination within five (5) 399 calendar days and include proof to the satisfaction of the 400 commissioner of the appointment of a new agent.

401 SECTION 7. Each retailer, distributor and wholesaler that 402 sells or distributes cigarettes in this state is subject to no 403 less than two (2) unannounced compliance checks annually by the 404 department for purposes of enforcing Sections 1 through 9 of this 405 act. Unannounced follow-up compliance checks of all noncompliant 406 retailers, distributors and wholesalers must be conducted no later 407 than thirty (30) days after a violation of Sections 1 through 9 of 408 this act. The department shall publish the results of all 409 compliance checks at least annually and make the results available 410 to the public on request.

411 <u>SECTION 8.</u> (1) The commissioner, acting through the 412 department, may promulgate rules and regulations necessary to 413 effectuate the purposes of this act.

414 (2) All fees and penalties collected by the commissioner 415 pursuant to Sections 1 through 9 of this act must be used for the H. B. 916 PAGE 12 416 administration and enforcement of Sections 1 through 9 of this 417 act.

418 <u>SECTION 9.</u> Before January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, 419 the commissioner shall provide a report to the Legislature on the 420 status of the directory, manufacturers and cigarettes included in 421 the directory, revenue and expenditures related to administration 422 of Sections 1 through 9 of this act, and enforcement activities 423 undertaken pursuant to Sections 1 through 9 of this act.

424 <u>SECTION 10.</u> For purposes of this section and Section 14 of 425 this act, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings 426 as defined in this section, unless the context clearly indicates 427 otherwise:

428 (a) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue of429 the Department of Revenue.

"Department" means the Department of Revenue.

430

431

(c) "ENDS product":

(b)

432 (i) Means any noncombustible product that employs
433 a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other
434 electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or
435 size, to produce vapor from nicotine in a solution;

436 (ii) Includes a consumable nicotine liquid
437 solution suitable for use in an ENDS product, whether sold with
438 the product or separately; and

439 (iii) Does not include any product regulated as a
440 drug or device under Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and
441 Cosmetic Act (21 USC § 351 et seq.).

(d) "Timely filed premarket tobacco product
application" means an application pursuant to 21 USC § 387j for an
ENDS product containing nicotine derived from tobacco marketed in
the United States as of August 8, 2016, that was submitted to the
United States Food and Drug Administration on or before September
9, 2020, and accepted for filing.

448 (e) "FDA" means the United States Food and Drug449 Administration.

450 **SECTION 11.** Section 27-69-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 451 brought forward as follows:

452 27-69-53. Any cigarettes found at any point within this 453 state, in the possession of a dealer or any person for a period of time longer than specified by Section 27-69-27 and not having 454 455 affixed to the package, the stamps as required, and any tobacco 456 subject to the tax found in the possession of any wholesaler, 457 distributor or dealer required by this chapter to obtain a permit, 458 who has not procured a permit, or whose permit has been revoked 459 and not reinstated, are hereby declared to be contraband goods, 460 and the same may be seized by the commissioner, or his agents, or 461 employees, or by any peace officer of this state, when directed by 462 the commissioner so to do, without a warrant, and the said goods 463 shall be offered by the commissioner for sale at public auction to 464 the highest bidder after due advertisement, but the commissioner 465 before delivering any of said goods so seized shall require the 466 purchaser to affix the proper amount of stamps to the cigarettes 467 or pay the excise tax on other tobacco as required by this

468 chapter. The proceeds of sale for any goods sold shall be paid to 469 the State Treasurer by the commissioner as are other funds 470 collected. Provided, that the cost of confiscation and sale shall 471 be paid out of the proceeds derived from such sale before making 472 remittance to the State Treasurer. The time limit herein 473 specified for affixing said stamps shall not apply to any person 474 who, within said time limits, shall offer for sale, either at 475 wholesale or retail, any cigarettes, and all cigarettes when 476 offered for sale either at wholesale or retail without the stamps 477 having been first affixed, shall be subject to confiscation. 478 Provided further, that any vehicle, not a common carrier, which 479 may be used in transporting for the purpose of sale any unstamped 480 cigarettes, shall likewise be subject to confiscation and sale in 481 the same manner as above provided.

482 The seizure, forfeiture and sale of contraband goods under 483 this section and Section 27-69-55 is supplemental and in addition 484 to the seizure, forfeiture and sale of contraband tobacco provided 485 for in Section 27-69-56. Where a basis exists under both this 486 section and Section 27-69-55 and under Section 27-69-56 for the 487 seizure, forfeiture and sale of the same contraband goods, such 488 actions can proceed simultaneously. Where such simultaneous 489 seizure, forfeiture and sale is undertaken and there is a conflict 490 between the procedures contained in this section and Section 491 27-69-55 and those contained in Section 27-69-56, the procedures 492 contained in Section 27-69-56 shall control and be followed.

493 **SECTION 12.** Section 27-69-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 494 brought forward as follows:

495 27-69-55. In all cases of seizures of any tobacco, or other 496 property hereafter made as being subject to forfeiture under the 497 provisions of this chapter, which in the opinion of the officer or 498 person making the seizure, is of the appraised value of 499 Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) or more, the said officer or person 500 shall proceed as follows:

501 First: He shall cause a list containing a particular 502 description of the tobacco or other property seized to be prepared 503 in duplicate, and an appraisement thereof to be made by three (3) 504 sworn appraisers to be selected by him, who shall be respectable and disinterested citizens of this state, residing within the 505 506 county wherein the seizure was made. Said list and appraisement 507 shall be properly attested by said officer, or person, and the 508 said appraisers, for which service each of said appraisers shall 509 be allowed the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) per day for not exceeding two (2) days, to be paid as other costs. 510

511 Second: If the said tobacco, or other property seized, is 512 believed by the officer making the seizure to be of less value 513 than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), no appraisement shall be made.

Third: The officer or person making the seizure shall proceed to give notice thereof for five (5) days, in writing, at three (3) places in the county where the seizure is made. One (1) of the notices shall be posted at the county courthouse; another at the place where the goods were seized; and the other at some

519 public place. The notice shall describe the property seized, and 520 state the time and place and cause of seizure, and give the name and place of residence, if known, of the person from whom the 521 522 property was seized, and shall require any person claiming it to 523 appear and make such claims in writing, within five (5) days from 524 the date of the first posting of such notice. Such officer or 525 person making the seizure shall also deliver to the person from whom the property was seized, and also to the owner, if known, a 526 527 copy of said notice.

Fourth: Any person claiming the said property so seized as 528 529 contraband within the time specified in the notice, may file with 530 the commissioner a claim, in writing, stating his interest in the 531 property seized, and may execute a bond to the State of 532 Mississippi in a penal sum equal to double the value of said 533 property so seized, but in no case shall said bond be less than 534 the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), with securities to be 535 approved by the clerk of the circuit court in the county in which 536 the property is seized, conditioned that in the case of 537 condemnation of the property so seized, the obligor shall pay to 538 the State of Mississippi the full value of the property so seized, 539 and all costs and expenses of the proceedings to obtain such 540 condemnation, including a reasonable attorney's fee. And upon the delivery of such bond to the commissioner, he shall transmit the 541 542 same with the duplicate list or description of the property seized to the county attorney of the county, or the district attorney of 543 544 the district in which such seizure was made, and the said county

545 attorney, or district attorney, as the case may be, shall 546 prosecute the case to secure the forfeiture of said property in 547 the court having jurisdiction. Upon the filing of the bond 548 aforesaid, the said property shall be delivered to the claimant 549 pending the outcome of the case, provided he shall at once affix 550 the required stamps on cigarettes or pay the tax due on other 551 tobacco products.

552 Fifth: If no claim is interposed, and no bond given within 553 the time above specified, such property shall be forfeited without further proceedings, and the same shall be sold as herein 554 provided, and the proceeds of the sale, when received by the 555 556 commissioner, shall be paid into the State Treasury as are other 557 funds collected, provided, that in seizures of property of less 558 value than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), the same may be 559 advertised with other quantities at Jackson by the commissioner 560 and disposed of as hereinabove provided.

561 In proceedings to secure a confiscation of the Sixth: property hereinbefore mentioned, where the value of the goods 562 563 seized at one time does not exceed the amount provided in Section 564 9-11-9, the justice court judge of the county where the property 565 is seized shall have jurisdiction to try the cause. Where the 566 value of the property seized at one time is in excess of the 567 amount provided in Section 9-11-9, then the circuit court of the 568 county where the property is seized shall have jurisdiction to try 569 the cause; provided, that in counties having a county court, the 570 county court shall have jurisdiction concurrent with the circuit

571 court, and with the justice court where the value of the property 572 seized does not exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

573 The proceedings against property seized according to the 574 provisions of this chapter shall be considered a proceeding in rem 575 unless otherwise herein provided.

576 Within ten (10) days after filing the bond provided for in 577 paragraph fourth hereof, the claimant shall file a petition in the court having jurisdiction of said cause, which shall stand for a 578 579 declaration, and the commissioner, or other party authorized to prosecute the confiscation of said property, shall plead to it as 580 581 if it were an ordinary action at law, and the same rules of 582 pleading and proceeding applicable to actions in the circuit court 583 shall be observed in this action, and all issues made by the 584 pleadings shall be tried and disposed of as other actions in the 585 circuit court, and the judgment of the circuit court shall be 586 framed to meet the circumstances of the case and the cost shall be 587 adjudged as in other actions; provided, however, neither the 588 state, nor the commissioner, nor any other person representing the 589 state, shall be liable for the cost in the event the court shall 590 not confiscate the property in controversy.

The seizure, forfeiture and sale of contraband goods under this section and Section 27-69-53 is supplemental and in addition to the seizure, forfeiture and sale of contraband tobacco provided for in Section 27-69-56. Where a basis exists under both this section and Section 27-69-53 and under Section 27-69-56 for the seizure, forfeiture and sale of the same contraband goods, such H. B. 916

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597 actions can proceed simultaneously. Where such simultaneous 598 seizure, forfeiture and sale is undertaken and there is a conflict 599 between the procedures contained in this section and Section 600 27-69-53 and those contained in Section 27-69-56, the procedures 601 contained in Section 27-69-56 shall control and be followed.

602 SECTION 13. Section 27-69-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 603 brought forward as follows:

604 27-69-59. When the commissioner has good reason to believe 605 that tobacco is being kept, sold, offered for sale, or given away in violation of this chapter, or regulations issued under 606 607 authority hereof, he may make affidavit of such fact, describing 608 the place or thing to be searched, before any justice of the 609 peace, mayor of any city, town or village, or county or circuit 610 judge of any county in this state, and such justice of the peace, mayor or county or circuit judge shall issue a search warrant 611 612 directed to the sheriff or any constable or any police officer in 613 any city, town or village, commanding him to proceed in the day 614 time, or in the night time, to enter by breaking, if necessary, 615 and to diligently search any building, room in a building, 616 outhouses, place, wagon, cart, buggy, motorcycle, motor truck, 617 automobile, water or air craft, or other vehicle as may be 618 designated in the affidavit and search warrant, and to seize such 619 tobacco so possessed and to hold the same until disposed of by 620 law, and to arrest the person or persons in possession or control 621 of the same.

522 Such writ shall be returnable instanter, or on a day to be 523 stated, and a copy shall be served on the owner or person in 524 possession, if such person be present or readily found.

If upon hearing, or the return of such search warrant, it shall appear that any tobacco unlawfully possessed were seized, the same shall be declared forfeited to this state, and shall be sold as provided in Section 27-69-55 of this chapter.

629 **SECTION 14.** (1) Before September 1, 2025, and annually 630 thereafter, every manufacturer of an ENDS product that is sold for retail sale or for sale to a consumer in Mississippi, whether 631 632 directly or through an importer, wholesaler, distributor, 633 retailer, or similar intermediary or intermediaries, shall execute 634 and deliver to the commissioner a certification, under penalty of 635 perjury on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, 636 that the manufacturer is compliant with this section and that, for 637 each ENDS product sold in Mississippi:

(a) The manufacturer has received a marketing granted
order for the ENDS product from the FDA pursuant to 21 USC § 387j;

(b) The manufacturer submitted a timely filed premarket
tobacco product application for the ENDS product to the FDA
pursuant to 21 USC § 387j, and the application either remains
under review by the FDA or has received a denial order that has
been and remains stayed by the FDA or court order, rescinded by
the FDA, or vacated by a court; or

646 (c) The manufacturer is not required to submit an
 647 additional marketing granted order or premarket tobacco product
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648 application for the ENDS product, because the ENDS product merely 649 reflects changes to the name, brand style, or packaging of an ENDS 650 product that is covered under paragraph (a) or (b) of this 651 subsection.

652 (2) The certification form shall separately list each brand 653 name, category (e.g., e-liquid, power unit, device, e-liquid 654 cartridge, e-liquid pod, disposable), product name, and flavor for 655 each ENDS product that is sold in Mississippi.

656 (3) Each annual certification form shall be accompanied by:657 (a) A copy of:

(i) The marketing granted order issued by the FDApursuant to 21 USC § 387j;

660 (ii) A copy of the acceptance letter issued by the
661 FDA pursuant to 21 USC § 387j for a timely filed premarket tobacco
662 product application; or

(iii) A document issued by FDA or by a court
confirming that the premarket tobacco product application has
received a denial order that has been and remains stayed by FDA or
court order, rescinded by FDA, or vacated by a court; and

(b) A payment of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for
each ENDS product each time a manufacturer submits an annual
certification form for that ENDS product, but not to exceed
<u>Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) annually per manufacturer</u>.

(4) The information submitted by the manufacturer pursuant
to subsection (3) (a) of this section is considered confidential
commercial or financial information for purposes of the

Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983 (Section 25-61-1, et al). The manufacturer may redact certain confidential commercial or financial information provided under subsection (3)(a) of this section. The commissioner shall not disclose such information except as required or authorized by law.

679 (5) A manufacturer required to submit a certification form 680 pursuant to this section shall notify the commissioner within 681 thirty (30) calendar days of any material change to the 682 certification form, including the issuance or denial of a marketing authorization or other order by the FDA pursuant to 21 683 684 USC § 387j, or any other order or action by the FDA or any court 685 that affects the ability of the ENDS product to be introduced or 686 delivered into interstate commerce for commercial distribution in 687 the United States.

688 To the extent that 21 USC § 387j is amended, or (6) 689 subsequent regulations or other official federal guidance or 690 formal policy statement is issued, changing compliance 691 requirements or standards for an ENDS product to become federally 692 compliant, each manufacturer of an ENDS product that is sold for 693 retail sale in Mississippi shall submit documentation to the 694 commissioner substantiating compliance with such new federal 695 requirements or standards within thirty (30) days of the date 696 compliance with such requirement or standard is mandated. Failure 697 to substantiate compliance with new federal requirements or 698 standards shall be grounds for removal of the manufacturer and its 699 ENDS products from the directory established in this section.

700 (7) Beginning on October 1, 2025, the commissioner shall 701 maintain and make publicly available on the department's official 702 website a directory that lists all ENDS product manufacturers, 703 brand names, categories (e.g., e-liquid, e-liquid cartridge, 704 e-liquid pod, disposable), product names, and flavors for which 705 certification forms have been submitted and approved by the 706 commissioner and shall update the directory at least monthly to 707 ensure accuracy. The commissioner shall establish a process to 708 provide manufacturers, licensed retailers, distributors, and 709 wholesalers notice of the initial publication of the directory and 710 changes made to the directory in the prior month.

(8) Neither a manufacturer nor its ENDS products shall be included or retained in the directory if the commissioner determines that any of the following apply:

(a) The manufacturer failed to provide a complete and accurate certification as required by subsection (1) of this section;

(b) The manufacturer submitted a certification that does not comply with the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section;

(c) The manufacturer failed to include with its certification the payment required by subsection (3)(b) of this section;

723 (d) The manufacturer sold ENDS products in Mississippi 724 required to be certified under this section during a period when

725 either the manufacturer or the ENDS product had not been certified 726 and listed on the directory; or

(e) The information provided by the manufacturer in its
certification is determined by the commissioner to contain false
information or contains material misrepresentations or omissions.
(9) The commissioner shall provide manufacturers notice and
an opportunity to cure deficiencies before removing manufacturers
or ENDS products from the directory.

733 The commissioner may not remove the manufacturer or (a) 734 its ENDS products from the directory until at least thirty (30) 735 business days after the manufacturer has been given notice of an 736 intended action setting forth the reasons therefor. Notice shall 737 be sufficient and be deemed immediately received by a manufacturer 738 if the notice is sent either electronically or by facsimile to an 739 electronic mail address or facsimile number, as the case may be, 740 provided by the manufacturer in its most recent certification 741 filed under subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

(b) The ENDS product manufacturer shall have fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of the notice of the commissioner's intended action to cure the deficiencies or otherwise establish that the ENDS product manufacturer or its ENDS products should be included in the directory.

747 (c) Retailers shall have thirty (30) days following the 748 removal of a manufacturer or its ENDS products from the directory 749 to sell such ENDS products that were in the retailer's inventory 750 as of the date of removal.

751 (d) After thirty (30) calendar days following removal 752 from the directory, the ENDS product of a manufacturer identified 753 in the notice of removal and intended for retail sale or for sale 754 to a consumer in Mississippi is subject to seizure, forfeiture, 755 and destruction by the department, the Mississippi Attorney 756 General's Office, or any law enforcement agency in the State of 757 Mississippi, and may not be purchased or sold for retail sale or 758 for sale to a consumer in Mississippi. The cost of such seizure, 759 forfeiture, and destruction shall be borne by the person from whom 760 the ENDS products are confiscated, except that no ENDS products 761 may be seized from a consumer who has made a bona fide purchase of 762 such ENDS product. The department, Mississippi Attorney General's 763 Office, or other law enforcement agency in the State of 764 Mississippi may store and dispose of the seized ENDS products as 765 appropriate, in accordance with federal, state and local laws 766 pertaining to storage and disposal of such ENDS products.

767 (10)Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of (a) 768 this subsection (10), beginning on October 1, 2025, or on the date 769 that the commissioner first makes the directory available for 770 public inspection on the department's official website, whichever 771 is later, ENDS products not included in the directory, shall not 772 be sold for retail sale in Mississippi, either directly or through 773 an importer, distributor, wholesaler, retailer, or similar 774 intermediary or intermediaries.

(b) Each retailer shall have sixty (60) days from the date that the commissioner first makes the directory available for H. B. 916 PAGE 26 inspection on its the department's website to sell ENDS products that were in its inventory and not included in the directory or remove those ENDS products from inventory.

(c) Each distributor or wholesaler shall have sixty
(60) days from the date that the commissioner first makes the
directory available for inspection on the department's website to
remove those ENDS products intended for sale in the state from its
inventory.

785 After sixty (60) calendar days following (d) publication of the directory, ENDS products not listed in the 786 787 directory and intended for retail sale or for sale to a consumer 788 in Mississippi are subject to seizure, forfeiture, and destruction 789 by the department, the Mississippi Attorney General's Office, or 790 any law enforcement agency in the State of Mississippi, and may 791 not be purchased or sold for retail sale or for sale to a consumer 792 in Mississippi except as provided in subsection (9) of this 793 The cost of such seizure, forfeiture, and destruction section. 794 shall be paid by the person from whom the ENDS products are 795 confiscated, except that no ENDS products may be seized from a 796 consumer who has made a bona fide purchase of such ENDS product. 797 The department, Mississippi Attorney General's Office, or other 798 law enforcement agency may store and dispose of the seized ENDS 799 products as appropriate, in accordance with federal, state, and 800 local laws pertaining to storage and disposal of such ENDS 801 products.

802 (11)(a) A manufacturer, retailer, distributor, wholesaler, 803 or importer who sells or offers for sale an ENDS product for 804 retail sale or for sale to a consumer in Mississippi that is not 805 included in the directory shall be subject to a criminal penalty 806 imposed by the Mississippi Attorney General's Office or a district 807 attorney. Each violation of the provisions of this subsection 808 (11) shall be treated as a separate offense. A violation of this 809 subsection shall be punishable as follows:

(i) For each individual ENDS product offered for
sale in violation of this section until the offending ENDS product
is removed from the market or until the offending ENDS product is
properly listed on the directory, the penalty shall be not more
than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per ENDS product per day.

(ii) For a second violation of this type within a twelve-month period, the penalty shall be at least Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), but not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), per ENDS product per day.

(iii) For a third violation of this type within a twelve-month period after the initial violation, the penalty shall be at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), but not more than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), per ENDS product per day.

(iv) For any subsequent violation, the Attorney
General or district attorney may bring an action in the
appropriate state court to prevent a manufacturer, retailer,

827 distributor, wholesaler, or importer from selling or offering to 828 sell an ENDS product that is not included in the directory.

(v) If the ENDS product contains any controlled substance, including, but not limited to, fentanyl, that causes the recipient of such to require emergency medical care as a result of using the ENDS product, then the applicable penalty described in this paragraph (a) shall be trebled, and any other penalty provided by law for the sale, possession, or furnishing of a controlled substance shall be added.

836 (b) Additionally, a manufacturer whose ENDS products 837 are not listed in the directory and who causes the ENDS products 838 that are not listed to be sold for retail sale in Mississippi, 839 whether directly or through an importer, distributor, wholesaler, 840 retailer, or similar intermediary or intermediaries, is subject to a civil penalty of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) 841 842 per day for each individual ENDS product offered for sale in 843 violation of this section until the offending ENDS product is 844 removed from the market or until the offending ENDS product is 845 properly listed on the directory. In addition, any manufacturer 846 that falsely represents any information required by a 847 certification form shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for each false 848 representation.

(c) In an action to enforce this section, the state
shall be entitled to recover costs, including the costs of
investigation, expert witness fees and reasonable attorney fees.

852 (d) A repeated violation of this section shall 853 constitute a deceptive trade practice under Section 75-24-5. 854 (a) A manufacturer not registered to do business in (12)855 the state shall, as a condition precedent to having its name or 856 its products listed and retained in the directory, appoint and 857 continually engage without interruption a registered agent in 858 Mississippi for service of process on whom all process and any 859 action or proceeding arising out of the enforcement of this 860 section may be served. The manufacturer shall provide to the commissioner the name, address, and telephone number of its agent 861 for service of process and shall provide any other information 862 863 relating to its agent as may be requested by the commissioner.

864 A manufacturer located outside of the United States (b) 865 shall, as an additional condition precedent to having its products 866 listed or retained in the directory, cause each of its importers 867 of any of its ENDS products to be sold in Mississippi to appoint, 868 and continually engage without interruption, the services of an 869 agent in the state in accordance with the provisions of this 870 section. All obligations of a manufacturer imposed by this 871 section with respect to appointment of its agent shall also apply to the importers with respect to appointment of their agents. 872

(c) A manufacturer shall provide written notice to the commissioner thirty (30) calendar days prior to the termination of the authority of an agent appointed under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection (12). No less than five (5) calendar days prior to the termination of an existing agent appointment, a

878 manufacturer shall provide to the commissioner the name, address 879 and telephone number of its newly appointed agent for service of 880 process and shall provide any other information relating to the 881 new appointment as may be requested by the commissioner. In the 882 event an agent terminates an agency appointment, the manufacturer 883 shall notify the commissioner of the termination within five (5) 884 calendar days and shall include proof to the satisfaction of the 885 commissioner of the appointment of a new agent.

886 (a) Any nonresident or foreign manufacturer that has (13)not registered to do business in the state as a foreign 887 corporation or business entity shall, as a condition precedent to 888 889 having its name or its ENDS products listed and retained in the 890 directory submit to the commissioner a surety bond or other cash 891 security payable to the State of Mississippi in the amount of 892 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). The bond shall be 893 posted by a corporate surety located within the United States.

894 The bond shall be conditioned on the performance by (b) 895 the manufacturer of all requirements and obligations imposed by 896 this section. A surety on a manufacturer's bond shall be liable 897 up to the amount of the bond, and the state may execute on such 898 surety bond, for the payment of fines and penalties imposed on the 899 manufacturer under this section and for the costs of seizure and 900 destruction of ENDS products sold in violation of this section. 901 If the state executes on the surety bond, it may require the 902 manufacturer to provide an additional bond as a condition

903 precedent for retaining the manufacturer or its ENDS products in 904 the directory.

905 A surety on a bond furnished by a manufacturer as (C) 906 provided in this section shall be released and discharged from 907 liability to the state accruing on the bond after expiration of 908 sixty (60) days from the date upon which such surety shall have 909 lodged with the commissioner a written request to be released and 910 This provision shall not operate to relieve, release, discharged. 911 or discharge the surety from liability already accrued or which shall accrue before the expiration of the sixty-day period. 912 The 913 commissioner shall, upon receiving any such request, notify the 914 manufacturer who furnished the bond. Unless the manufacturer, on 915 or before the expiration of the sixty-day period, files with the 916 commissioner a new bond, with the surety approved by and 917 acceptable to the commissioner, the commissioner shall remove the 918 manufacturer and its ENDS products from the directory.

919 Each retailer, distributor, and wholesaler that sells (14)920 or distributes ENDS products in this state or sells ENDS products 921 to consumers in this state shall be subject to at least two (2) 922 unannounced compliance checks annually by the department for 923 purposes of enforcing this section. Unannounced follow-up 924 compliance checks of all noncompliant retailers, distributors, and 925 wholesalers shall be conducted within thirty (30) days after any 926 violation of this article. The department shall publish the 927 results of all compliance checks annually and shall make the 928 results available to the public upon request. This section does H. B. 916

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929 not affect the authority of the Attorney General's Office under 930 Section 97-32-21 to ensure compliance with the Mississippi 931 Juvenile Tobacco Access Prevention Act of 1997 by conducting 932 random, unannounced inspection checks where alternative nicotine 933 products, tobacco, or tobacco products are sold or distributed. 934 The Attorney General's Office shall also have the authority to 935 conduct random, unannounced inspections at locations where ENDS 936 products are sold to ensure compliance with this section.

937 (15) The commissioner may promulgate rules necessary to 938 effectuate the purposes of this section. By January 1, 2026, the 939 department shall promulgate rules and regulations and implement a 940 permitting process for retailers, wholesalers, and distributors of 941 ENDS products in Mississippi.

942 (16) All fees and penalties collected by the commissioner 943 pursuant to this section shall be used for administration and 944 enforcement of this section.

945 (17) Before January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the 946 commissioner shall provide a report to the Legislature regarding 947 the status of the directory, manufacturers and ENDS products 948 included in the directory, revenue and expenditures related to 949 administration of this section, and enforcement activities 950 undertaken pursuant to this section of this act.

951 SECTION 15. This act shall take effect and be in force from 952 and after July 1, 2025.

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 AN ACT RELATING TO THE SALE OF CIGARETTES IN MISSISSIPPI; TO 2 DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS; TO REQUIRE EACH CIGARETTE MANUFACTURER WHOSE 3 CIGARETTES ARE SOLD IN MISSISSIPPI TO FILE AN ANNUAL CERTIFICATION 4 WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE CONTAINING SPECIFIED INFORMATION 5 ABOUT THE MANUFACTURER AND ITS CIGARETTES; TO REQUIRE THE 6 COMMISSIONER TO MAINTAIN A STATE CIGARETTE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE TO 7 THE PUBLIC ON THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE'S WEBSITE; TO PROHIBIT THE 8 SALE OF A MANUFACTURER'S CIGARETTES IF THE MANUFACTURER IS NOT 9 LISTED ON THE DIRECTORY; TO GIVE RETAILERS AND IMPORTERS, 10 DISTRIBUTORS AND WHOLESALERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISPOSE OF THEIR 11 CIGARETTE INVENTORY THAT IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO BE SOLD IN THE 12 DIRECTORY BEFORE THE INVENTORY IS SEIZED; TO ESTABLISH CIVIL 13 PENALTIES FOR RETAILERS AND OTHER ENTITIES SELLING CIGARETTES THAT 14 ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY; TO REQUIRE MANUFACTURERS TO 15 HAVE A REGISTERED AGENT IN THE STATE FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS; TO 16 REQUIRE UNANNOUNCED COMPLIANCE CHECKS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF 17 REVENUE; TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE TO PROMULGATE 18 RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND TO USE FEES AND PENALTIES COLLECTED, 19 FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ACT; TO REQUIRE 20 ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE STATUS OF THE STATE 21 CIGARETTE DIRECTORY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES; TO BRING FORWARD 22 SECTION 27-69-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE 23 CONFISCATION OF CIGARETTES NOT HAVING STAMPS AFFIXED TO THE 24 PACKAGE AS REQUIRED UNDER THE TOBACCO TAX LAW, FOR PURPOSES OF 25 POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-69-55, MISSISSIPPI 26 CODE OF 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHES PROCEDURES FOR THE SEIZURE OF 27 CERTAIN TOBACCO PRODUCTS UNDER THE TOBACCO TAX LAW, FOR PURPOSES 28 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-69-59, 29 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE SEARCH AND 30 SEIZURE OF ILLEGALLY SOLD TOBACCO PRODUCTS, FOR PURPOSES OF 31 POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO PROVIDE THAT, NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 32 2025, EVERY MANUFACTURER OF AN ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY 33 SYSTEMS (ENDS) PRODUCT THAT IS SOLD FOR RETAIL SALE OR SALE TO A 34 CONSUMER IN MISSISSIPPI SHALL EXECUTE AND DELIVER TO THE 35 COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE A CERTIFICATION THAT THE MANUFACTURER IS 36 COMPLIANT WITH THIS ACT AND FEDERAL LAW; TO PROVIDE THAT THE 37 INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY THE MANUFACTURER IS CONSIDERED 38 CONFIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR PURPOSES OF 39 THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC RECORDS ACT OF 1983; TO PROVIDE THAT, 40 BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAINTAIN AND MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE'S OFFICIAL 41 42 WEBSITE A DIRECTORY THAT LISTS ALL ENDS PRODUCT MANUFACTURERS, 43 BRAND NAMES, CATEGORIES, PRODUCT NAMES, AND FLAVORS FOR WHICH CERTIFICATION FORMS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY THE 44 45 COMMISSIONER AND SHALL REQUIRE THE UPDATE OF THE DIRECTORY AT 46 LEAST MONTHLY TO ENSURE ACCURACY; TO REQUIRE THE COMMISSIONER TO 47 ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO PROVIDE MANUFACTURERS, LICENSED RETAILERS, 48 DISTRIBUTORS, AND WHOLESALERS NOTICE OF THE INITIAL PUBLICATION OF 49 THE DIRECTORY AND CHANGES MADE TO THE DIRECTORY IN THE PRIOR 50 MONTH; TO PROVIDE THAT NEITHER A MANUFACTURER NOR ITS ENDS

51 PRODUCTS SHALL BE INCLUDED OR RETAINED IN THE DIRECTORY IF THE 52 COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THAT THE MANUFACTURER FAILED TO PROVIDE A 53 COMPLETE AND ACCURATE CERTIFICATION AND PROVIDE PAYMENT; TO 54 PROVIDE THAT, AFTER 30 CALENDAR DAYS FOLLOWING REMOVAL FROM THE 55 DIRECTORY, THE ENDS PRODUCT OF A MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIED IN THE 56 NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND INTENDED FOR SALE IN MISSISSIPPI ARE SUBJECT 57 TO SEIZURE, FORFEITURE, AND DESTRUCTION, AND SHALL NOT BE 58 PURCHASED OR SOLD FOR RETAIL SALE OR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN 59 MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE THAT, BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, OR ON 60 THE DATE THAT THE COMMISSIONER FIRST MAKES THE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE 61 FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE'S WEBSITE, 62 WHICHEVER IS LATER, ENDS PRODUCTS NOT INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY, 63 SHALL NOT BE SOLD FOR RETAIL SALE OR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN 64 MISSISSIPPI, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH AN IMPORTER, DISTRIBUTOR, WHOLESALER, RETAILER, OR SIMILAR INTERMEDIARY OR INTERMEDIARIES; 65 66 TO PROVIDE THAT EACH RETAILER SHALL HAVE 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE 67 THAT THE COMMISSIONER FIRST MAKES THE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE FOR 68 INSPECTION ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE TO SELL PRODUCTS THAT WERE 69 IN ITS INVENTORY AND NOT INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY OR REMOVE THOSE 70 PRODUCTS FROM INVENTORY; TO PROVIDE THAT, AFTER 60 CALENDAR DAYS FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DIRECTORY, ENDS PRODUCTS NOT LISTED 71 72 IN THE DIRECTORY AND INTENDED FOR RETAIL SALE OR SALE TO A 73 CONSUMER IN MISSISSIPPI ARE SUBJECT TO SEIZURE, FORFEITURE, AND 74 DESTRUCTION, AND MAY NOT BE PURCHASED OR SOLD FOR RETAIL SALE OR 75 SALE TO A CONSUMER IN MISSISSIPPI EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED; TO 76 PROVIDE THAT A MANUFACTURER, RETAILER, DISTRIBUTOR, WHOLESALER, OR 77 IMPORTER WHO SELLS OR OFFERS FOR SALE AN ENDS PRODUCT FOR RETAIL 78 SALE OR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN MISSISSIPPI THAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN 79 THE DIRECTORY SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A CRIMINAL PENALTY OF NOT MORE 80 THAN \$500.00 PER DAY FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL ENDS PRODUCT OFFERED FOR 81 SALE IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT, WHICH SHALL BE INCREASED TO AT 82 LEAST \$750.00, BUT NOT MORE THAN \$1,000.00, PER PRODUCT PER DAY 83 FOR A SECOND VIOLATION IN A 12-MONTH PERIOD, AND TO AT LEAST 84 \$1,000.00, BUT NOT MORE THAN \$1,500.00, PER PRODUCT PER DAY FOR A 85 THIRD VIOLATION IN A 12-MONTH PERIOD; TO PROVIDE THAT, FOR 86 SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR DISTRICT ATTORNEY 87 MAY BRING AN ACTION IN STATE COURT TO PREVENT A MANUFACTURER, 88 RETAILER, DISTRIBUTOR, WHOLESALER, OR IMPORTER FROM SELLING OR 89 OFFERING TO SELL AN ENDS PRODUCT THAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE 90 DIRECTORY; TO PROVIDE FOR TREBLE PENALTIES, PLUS ANY OTHER PENALTY 91 PROVIDED BY LAW FOR THE SALE, POSSESSION, OR FURNISHING OF A 92 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, IF THE ENDS PRODUCT CONTAINS ANY CONTROLLED 93 SUBSTANCE THAT CAUSES THE RECIPIENT TO REQUIRE EMERGENCY MEDICAL 94 CARE; TO PROVIDE THAT A MANUFACTURER WHOSE ENDS PRODUCTS ARE NOT 95 LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY AND WHO CAUSES THE PRODUCTS THAT ARE NOT 96 LISTED TO BE SOLD FOR RETAIL SALE OR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN 97 MISSISSIPPI, IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF \$2,500.00 FOR EACH 98 INDIVIDUAL ENDS PRODUCT OFFERED FOR SALE IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT; 99 TO REQUIRE A MANUFACTURER LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES TO 100 CAUSE EACH OF ITS IMPORTERS OF ANY OF ITS PRODUCTS TO BE SOLD IN 101 MISSISSIPPI TO APPOINT, AND CONTINUALLY ENGAGE WITHOUT 102 INTERRUPTION, THE SERVICES OF AN AGENT IN THE STATE; TO REQUIRE A

103 MANUFACTURER TO PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE COMMISSIONER 30 104 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE TERMINATION OF THE AUTHORITY OF AN 105 AGENT; TO PROVIDE THAT EACH RETAILER, DISTRIBUTOR, AND WHOLESALER 106 THAT SELLS OR DISTRIBUTES ENDS PRODUCTS IN THIS STATE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AT LEAST TWO UNANNOUNCED COMPLIANCE CHECKS BY THE 107 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S 108 109 OFFICE SHALL ALSO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT RANDOM, 110 UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS AT LOCATIONS WHERE ENDS PRODUCTS ARE SOLD 111 TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT, BEGINNING ON 112 JANUARY 31, 2026, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL 113 PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE THAT CONTAINS CERTAIN 114 INFORMATION RELATED TO THE REGISTRY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

SS26\HB916PS.J

Amanda White Secretary of the Senate