

By: Senator(s) Turner

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2180

1 AN ACT TO CLARIFY DISPOSITION OF SEIZED PROPERTY AFTER NOTICE  
2 TO ANY KNOWN OWNER OR LIENHOLDER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Any property received, recovered or seized by the  
5 Department of Public Safety which is not forfeited or disposed of  
6 by court order may be released to the owner of the property upon  
7 receipt of payment for all storage and towing charges incurred by  
8 the Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety  
9 shall notify in writing, by first class mail, the owner or  
10 lienholder of the property at the owner's or lienholder's last  
11 known address that the owner or lienholder may retrieve the  
12 property. In the event that the owner or lienholder does not  
13 claim the property within thirty (30) days from the date of the  
14 mailing of the notice, the property is declared forfeited to the  
15 Department of Public Safety. The owner or the lienholder shall be  
16 considered notified under this provision if the notice is  
17 deposited in the United States mail and any claim that the notice  
18 was not in fact received by the addressee shall not affect the  
19 sale or disposition of the property.

20 **SECTION 2.** This section shall be codified under Title 45,  
21 Chapter 1, Mississippi Code of 1972.

22 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
23 and after July 1, 2002.

