

By: Representative Compretta

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1184

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-411, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO DELETE CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF DRIVERS INVOLVED IN
3 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING INJURY OR DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE OF ONE
4 THOUSAND DOLLARS OR MORE; TO REPEAL SECTION 63-15-9, WHICH
5 REQUIRES OPERATORS OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO FILE ACCIDENT REPORTS WHEN
6 INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-3-411, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 63-3-411. (1) The driver of a vehicle involved in an
11 accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or total
12 property damage to an apparent extent of Five Hundred Dollars
13 (\$500.00) or more shall immediately, by the quickest means of
14 communication, give notice of the collision to the local police
15 department if the collision occurs within an incorporated
16 municipality, or if the collision occurs outside of an
17 incorporated municipality to the nearest sheriff's office or
18 highway patrol station.

19 * * *

20 (2) The department may require any driver of a vehicle
21 involved in an accident, of which report must be made as provided
22 in this section, to file supplemental reports whenever the
23 original report is insufficient in the opinion of the department.
24 Additionally, the department may require witnesses of accidents to
25 render reports to the department.

26 (3) It shall be the duty of the highway patrol or the
27 sheriff's office to investigate all accidents required to be
28 reported by this section when the accident occurs outside the
29 corporate limits of a municipality, and it shall be the duty of



30 the police department of each municipality to investigate all
31 accidents required to be reported by this section when the
32 accidents occur within the corporate limits of the municipality.

33 Every law enforcement officer who investigates an accident as
34 required by this subsection, whether the investigation is made at
35 the scene of the accident or by subsequent investigation and
36 interviews, shall forward within six (6) days after completing the
37 investigation a written report of the accident to the department
38 if the accident occurred outside the corporate limits of a
39 municipality, or to the police department of the municipality if
40 the accident occurred within the corporate limits of such
41 municipality. Police departments shall forward such reports to
42 the department within six (6) days of the date of the accident.

43 (4) Whenever an engineer of a railroad locomotive, or other
44 person in charge of a train, is required to show proof of his
45 identity under the provisions of this article, in connection with
46 operation of such locomotive, to any law enforcement officer, such
47 person shall not be required to display his operator's or
48 chauffeur's license but shall display his railroad employee
49 number.

50 (5) In addition to the information required on the
51 "statewide uniform traffic accident report" forms provided by
52 Section 63-3-415, the department shall require the parties
53 involved in an accident and the witnesses of such accident to
54 furnish their phone numbers in order to assist the investigation
55 by law enforcement officers.

56 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, which
57 requires operators of motor vehicles to file accident reports when
58 involved in an accident, is repealed.

59 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
60 and after July 1, 2003.

