

By: Representative Banks

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1201

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-37-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT A SEIZED WEAPON SHALL ONLY BE RETURNED TO AN ADULT  
3 OWNER IF CHARGES ARE DISMISSED OR THE DEFENDANT IS ACQUITTED; AND  
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-37-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 97-37-3. Any weapon used in violation of Section 97-37-1, or  
9 used in the commission of any other crime, shall be seized by the  
10 arresting officer, may be introduced in evidence, and in the event  
11 of a conviction, shall be ordered to be forfeited, and shall be  
12 disposed of as ordered by the court having jurisdiction of such  
13 offense. In the event of dismissal or acquittal of charges, such  
14 weapon shall be returned to the owner if the owner is aged  
15 eighteen (18) years or older.

16 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
17 and after July 1, 2003.

