

By: Senator(s) Gollott

To: Highways and  
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2630

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-23-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT THE MAXIMUM SIZE OF CERTAIN OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS  
3 ON PROPERTY ON WHICH OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS WERE ERECTED PRIOR  
4 TO JULY 1, 2003, SHALL BE 1,200 SQUARE FEET; TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
5 NUMBER OF SUCH SIGNS ON SUCH PROPERTY SHALL NOT EXCEED THE NUMBER  
6 ON THE PROPERTY ON JULY 1, 2003; TO REMOVE THE HEIGHT RESTRICTION  
7 ON CERTAIN OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-23-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 49-23-9. All signs as specified in Section 49-23-5(d) and  
12 (e) erected or maintained in business areas shall comply with the  
13 following standards which are consistent with customary use in the  
14 outdoor advertising business in Mississippi:

15 (1) (a) For property on which signs were erected prior to  
16 July 1, 2003, the maximum size of any outdoor sign or other  
17 advertising device shall be one thousand two hundred (1,200)  
18 square feet and the number of such signs on such property shall  
19 not exceed the number on such property on July 1, 2003;

20 (b) For sign structures erected on or after July 1,  
21 2003, the maximum area for any one (1) sign face shall be six  
22 hundred seventy-two (672) square feet, the maximum height shall be  
23 fourteen (14) feet and the maximum length shall be forty-eight  
24 (48) feet, inclusive of any border and trim on the sign face, but  
25 excluding any embellishment on, and cut-out extension of, the sign  
26 face, the base or apron, supports and other structural  
27 members. \* \* \* Any embellishment on or cut-out extension of any  
28 sign face shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the square  
29 footage of such sign face.



30 (2) The area of any sign face shall be measured by the  
31 smallest square, rectangle, triangle or circle or combination  
32 thereof which will encompass the entire sign.

33 (3) Sign structures erected on or after July 1, 2003, may  
34 contain one (1) or two (2) signs per face and may use only a  
35 side-by-side, back-to-back or V-type configuration and no other;  
36 provided, however, that if two (2) signs are used facing the same  
37 direction, the aggregate total area shall not exceed six hundred  
38 seventy-two (672) square feet.

39 (4) All illuminated outdoor signs or other advertising  
40 devices shall be so illuminated as to adhere to the customary  
41 practices of the industry in Mississippi at the time of passage of  
42 Sections 49-23-1 through 49-23-29. No lighting devices shall be  
43 used which in any way imitate any traffic control device, railroad  
44 sign or signal, or highway directional signs.

45 (5) All outdoor signs and other advertising devices located  
46 within one-half (1/2) mile of an intersection of two (2) or more  
47 primary highways, or a primary highway and the Great River Road,  
48 or an interchange on the interstate system shall be erected and/or  
49 maintained with a minimum spacing between structures of two  
50 hundred fifty (250) feet, unless separated by another commercial  
51 building or structure, other than outdoor advertising, in which  
52 case outdoor advertising may be permitted on one or more sides of  
53 building or buildings.

54 (6) No two (2) signs shall be spaced less than three hundred  
55 fifty (350) feet apart, except as to signs in existence on October  
56 22, 1965, which shall not be removed by Sections 49-23-1 through  
57 49-23-29. However, this spacing limitation shall not apply to  
58 areas within incorporated cities, towns, villages and in areas  
59 zoned industrial or commercial.

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

