

By: Representative Bailey

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1136

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-3-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE OFFENSE OF KIDNAPPING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-3-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
5 amended as follows:

6 97-3-53. Any person who shall with or without intent to
7 secretly confine and without lawful authority forcibly seize and
8 confine any other person, or shall inveigle or kidnap any other
9 person with intent to cause such person to be * * * confined or
10 imprisoned against his or her will, or shall without lawful
11 authority forcibly seize, inveigle or kidnap any child under the
12 age of sixteen (16) years * * * against the will of the parents or
13 guardian or person having the lawful custody of such child, shall,
14 upon conviction, be imprisoned for life in the state penitentiary
15 if the punishment is so fixed by the jury in its verdict. If the
16 jury fails to agree on fixing the penalty at imprisonment for life
17 the court shall fix the penalty at not less than one (1) year nor
18 more than thirty (30) years in the state penitentiary.

19 This section shall not be held to repeal, modify or amend any
20 other criminal statute of this state.

21 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
22 and after July 1, 2004.