

By: Representatives Moore, Akins, Bentz,
Chism, Reed, Reeves

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1297

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-45-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROHIBIT THE INTRODUCTION OF A VIRUS INTO A COMPUTER; AND FOR
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-45-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 97-45-7. (1) An offense against computer equipment or
8 supplies is the intentional modification or destruction, including
9 the introduction of a virus, without consent, of computer
10 equipment or supplies used or intended to be used in a computer,
11 computer system or computer network.

12 (2) Whoever commits an offense against computer equipment or
13 supplies shall be punished, upon conviction, by a fine of not more
14 than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment for not
15 more than six months or both such fine and imprisonment. However,
16 when the damage or loss amounts to a value of One Hundred Dollars
17 (\$100.00) or more, the offender may be punished, upon conviction,
18 by a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or by
19 imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, or by both such
20 fine and imprisonment.

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