

By: Representative Holland

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1376

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE RETAILERS OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BEER AND
2 LIGHT WINES TO DISPLAY SIGNS ON THE PREMISES WHERE THE ALCOHOLIC
3 BEVERAGES ARE SOLD THAT INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT DRINKING ALCOHOLIC
4 BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY CAN CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS; TO PROVIDE A
5 PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO DISPLAY SUCH SIGNS; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Each holder of a package retailer's permit,
9 on-premises retailer's permit or native wine retailer's permit
10 shall display on the premises where the permittee sells alcoholic
11 beverages at least one (1) sign that reads substantially as
12 follows: "WARNING! DRINKING WINE, BEER OR OTHER ALCOHOLIC
13 BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY CAN CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS." The sign or
14 signs shall be at least eighteen (18) inches long and eighteen
15 (18) inches high with lettering not less than one (1) inch in
16 height, and one (1) sign must be easily visible from the location
17 in the premises where the consumer purchases or otherwise receives
18 the alcoholic beverages.

19 Any person who fails to comply with the requirements of this
20 section shall be subject to a fine of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
21 if convicted and upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor.
22 However, if a person remedies such noncompliance by the time of
23 the person's scheduled court appearance, all charges shall be
24 dismissed against such person.

25 **SECTION 2.** Each holder of a permit or privilege license to
26 engage in the business of a retailer of beer or light wines shall
27 display on the premises where the permittee or licensee sells beer
28 or light wines at least one (1) sign that reads substantially as
29 follows: "WARNING! DRINKING WINE, BEER OR OTHER ALCOHOLIC

30 BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY CAN CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS." The sign or
31 signs shall be at least eighteen (18) inches long and eighteen
32 (18) inches high with lettering not less than one (1) inch in
33 height, and one (1) sign must be easily visible from the location
34 in the premises where the consumer purchases or otherwise receives
35 the beer or light wines.

36 Any person who fails to comply with the requirements of this
37 section shall be subject to a fine of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
38 if convicted and upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor.
39 However, if a person remedies such noncompliance by the time of
40 the person's scheduled court appearance, all charges shall be
41 dismissed against such person.

42 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 shall be codified as a new section in
43 Chapter 1 of Title 67, Mississippi Code of 1972. Section 2 shall
44 be codified as a new section in Chapter 3 of Title 67, Mississippi
45 Code of 1972.

46 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
47 and after July 1, 2005.