

By: Senator(s) Hyde-Smith

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2658

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT "GOOD FRIDAY" SHALL BE A STATE LEGAL HOLIDAY; AND FOR
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
8 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
9 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
10 of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
11 Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
12 birthday); the day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of
13 Mississippi as the Friday before Easter Sunday (Good Friday); the
14 last Monday of April (Confederate Memorial Day); the last Monday
15 of May (National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis' birthday); the
16 fourth day of July (Independence Day); the first Monday of
17 September (Labor Day); the eleventh day of November (Armistice or
18 Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of
19 Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to
20 correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United
21 States (Thanksgiving Day); and the twenty-fifth day of December
22 (Christmas Day). In the event any holiday hereinbefore declared
23 legal shall fall on Sunday, then the next following day shall be a
24 legal holiday.

25 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
26 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
27 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s

28 birthday), the governing authorities of any municipality or county
29 may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or
30 any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

31 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
32 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
33 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
34 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
35 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
36 holiday.

37 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
38 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
39 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
40 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
41 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
42 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
43 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
44 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
45 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and
46 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
47 holiday.

48 (5) Insofar as possible, Armistice Day shall be observed by
49 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
50 Mississippi at the eleventh hour in the morning of the eleventh
51 day of the eleventh month of the year.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
53 and after its passage.