

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott, Michel, Lee
(35th)

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2551

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION
2 63-15-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE PROOF OF MOTOR
3 VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE BEFORE RECEIVING MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE
4 TAGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
7 63-15-8, Mississippi Code of 1972:

8 63-15-8. (1) Every owner of a motor vehicle in this state
9 shall furnish proof of motor vehicle liability insurance as
10 required by this chapter before such owner may receive a license
11 tag for a motor vehicle or renew a license tag. However, any
12 owner of a motor vehicle exempted from the proof of insurance
13 requirement pursuant to Section 63-15-4(1) shall be exempted from
14 the provisions of this section. Proof of motor vehicle liability
15 insurance as required by this chapter shall be made by presenting
16 to the tax collector in person or by mail the insurance card, or a
17 copy thereof, issued by the insurer for the motor vehicle.

18 (2) Any person who presents or causes to be presented to the
19 tax collector or to any court of this state false evidence of
20 motor vehicle liability insurance as required by this chapter,
21 upon conviction, shall be guilty of perjury and shall be fined
22 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and shall be subject to
23 imprisonment for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or both such
24 fine and imprisonment. This fine and imprisonment shall be waived
25 if the offender chooses to purchase, and provides proof of such
26 purchase by the court date, motor vehicle liability insurance for
27 a minimum of six (6) months' coverage in at least the minimum
28 amounts required under paragraph (j) of Section 63-15-3. Any

29 person convicted of filing false proof of motor vehicle liability
30 insurance as required by this chapter shall surrender to the
31 department his driver's license, license plates and registration
32 of the motor vehicle for which false proof was presented and the
33 procedure for the suspension of licenses provided in Section
34 63-15-11 relating to accidents shall be followed. Such driver's
35 license, license plates and registration shall be reinstated upon
36 payment of any fines and reinstatement fees, serving of a sentence
37 if applicable, and upon presentation of proof of purchase of
38 minimum motor vehicle liability insurance in accordance with the
39 provisions of this subsection. The district attorney of the
40 jurisdiction where any false evidence is presented shall prosecute
41 any violation of this section. Any person convicted under this
42 section shall be assessed with all costs of prosecution and all
43 court costs.

44 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after July 1, 2006.