

By: Representatives Felsher, Hulum

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 337

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 63-1-35 AND 45-35-3, MISSISSIPPI
 2 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE ALL DRIVER'S LICENSES, DRIVING PERMITS,
 3 COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES OR IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED BY THE
 4 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO INCLUDE THE WORDS "CRISIS LIFELINE - DIAL
 5 OR TEXT 988, OR CHAT 988LIFELINE.ORG" ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE
 6 LICENSE, PERMIT OR CARD; TO AMEND SECTIONS 45-35-11 AND 45-35-53,
 7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE PRECEDING
 8 PROVISIONS; TO REQUIRE ALL STATE-SUPPORTED POSTSECONDARY
 9 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE
 10 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING,
 11 MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OR BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF A
 12 COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TO ISSUE AN IDENTIFICATION CARD TO ALL
 13 PERSONNEL EMPLOYED BY AND ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED AND ATTENDING SAID
 14 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS TO INCLUDE THE WORDS "CRISIS LIFELINE -
 15 DIAL OR TEXT 988, OR CHAT 988LIFELINE.ORG" ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF
 16 THE LICENSE, PERMIT OR CARD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

18 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 19 amended as follows:

20 63-1-35. (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall
 21 prescribe the form of license issued pursuant to this article
 22 which shall, among other features, include a driver's license
 23 number assigned by the Department of Public Safety. A licensee
 24 shall list his social security number with the department which
 25 shall cross reference the social security number with the driver's



26 license number for purposes of identification. Additionally, each
27 license shall bear a full-face color photograph of the licensee in
28 such form that the license and the photograph cannot be separated.
29 The photograph shall be taken so that one (1) exposure will
30 photograph the applicant and the application simultaneously on the
31 same film. The department shall use a process in the issuance of
32 a license with a color photograph that shall prevent as nearly as
33 possible any alteration, counterfeiting, duplication,
34 reproduction, forging or modification of the license or the
35 superimposition of a photograph without ready detection. The
36 photograph shall be replaced by the department at the time of
37 renewal. Drivers' licenses, including photographs appearing
38 thereon, may be renewed by electronic means according to rules and
39 regulations promulgated by the commissioner in conformity to
40 Section 27-104-33.

41 (2) The commissioner shall prescribe the form of license
42 issued pursuant to this article to licensees who are not United
43 States citizens and who do not possess a social security number
44 issued by the United States government. The license of such
45 persons shall include a number and/or other identifying features.

46 (3) Any new, renewal or duplicate driver's license,
47 temporary driving permit or commercial driver's license issued to
48 a person required to register as a sex offender pursuant to
49 Section 45-33-25 shall bear a designation identifying the licensee
50 or permittee as a sex offender.



51 (4) The commissioner is authorized to provide the new,
52 renewal or duplicate driver's license, temporary driving permit or
53 commercial driver's license to any honorably discharged veteran as
54 defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, and such license or
55 permit shall exhibit the letters "Vet" or any other mark
56 identifying the person as a veteran. The veteran requesting the
57 "Vet" designation shall present his DD-214, Military Retiree
58 Identification Card, United States Department of Veterans Affairs
59 Medical Identification Card, United States Department of Veterans
60 Affairs Identification Card or National Guard Form NGB 22. The
61 veteran requesting the "Vet" designation may present his DD-214,
62 Military Retiree Identification Card, United States Department of
63 Veterans Affairs Medical Identification Card, United States
64 Department of Veterans Affairs Identification Card or National
65 Guard Form NGB 22 in person at the Mississippi Department of
66 Public Safety Driver's License Station.

67 (5) Not later than July 1, 2021, the commissioner shall
68 develop and implement a driver's license or driving permit in
69 electronic format as an additional option for license or permit
70 holders. Acceptable electronic formats include display of
71 electronic images on a cellular phone or any other type of
72 electronic device.

73 (6) If false documents are provided by an individual for
74 purposes of obtaining a veteran driver's license, such action
75 shall be considered fraudulent use of identity under Section



76 97-19-85, Mississippi Code of 1972, and shall be punishable, upon
77 conviction, as a felony pursuant to the provisions of that
78 section.

79 (7) Any license issued under the authority of this article,
80 whether a new, renewal or duplicate license, temporary driving
81 permit, temporary or regular learner's permit, commercial driver's
82 license or identification card, and whether in physical or
83 electronic format, shall include the words, "Crisis Lifeline -
84 Dial or text 988, or chat 988lifeline.org" on the reverse side of
85 the license, permit or identification card.

86 **SECTION 2.** Section 45-35-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
87 amended as follows:

88 45-35-3. (1) Any person six (6) years of age or older may
89 be issued an identification card by the department which is
90 certified by the registrant and attested by the commissioner as to
91 true name, correct age and such other identifying data as required
92 by Section 45-35-5.

93 (2) The new, renewal or duplicate identification card of a
94 person required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Section
95 45-33-25 shall bear a designation identifying the cardholder as a
96 sex offender.

97 (3) The commissioner is authorized to provide the new,
98 renewal or duplicate identification card to any honorably
99 discharged veteran as defined in Title 38 of the United States
100 Code, and such identification card shall exhibit the letters "Vet"



101 or any other mark identifying the person as a veteran. The
102 veteran requesting the "Vet" designation shall present his DD-214
103 or equivalent document that includes a notation from the State
104 Veterans Affairs Board that the applicant is a veteran.

105 (4) Not later than July 1, 2021, the commissioner shall
106 develop and implement an identification card in electronic format
107 as an additional option for card holders. Acceptable electronic
108 formats include display of electronic images on a cellular phone
109 or any other type of electronic device.

110 (5) Any identification card issued under the authority of
111 this article, whether physical or in electronic format, shall
112 include the words, "Crisis Lifeline - Dial or text 988, or chat
113 988lifeline.org" on the reverse side of the identification card.

114 **SECTION 3.** Section 45-35-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
115 amended as follows:

116 45-35-11. All identification cards shall be centrally issued
117 by the department, adequately describe the registrant, bear a
118 color photograph of the registrant, and include other such
119 identifying data as required by Section 45-35-5, and shall comply
120 with all additional reference and resource information
121 requirements specified in Section 45-35-3.

122 **SECTION 4.** Section 45-35-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
123 amended as follows:

124 45-35-53. (1) The Department of Public Safety shall issue
125 personal identification cards to persons with disabilities who



126 make application to the department in accordance with rules and
127 regulations prescribed by the commissioner by filing with the
128 Secretary of State under the Administrative Procedures Act. The
129 identification card for persons with disabilities shall
130 prominently display the international handicapped symbol and, in
131 addition to any other information required by this article, may
132 contain a recent color photograph of the applicant and the
133 following information:

- 134 (a) Full legal name;
- 135 (b) Address of residence;
- 136 (c) Birth date;
- 137 (d) Date identification card was issued;
- 138 (e) Date identification card expires;
- 139 (f) Sex;
- 140 (g) Height;
- 141 (h) Weight;
- 142 (i) Eye color;
- 143 (j) Location where the identification card was issued;
- 144 (k) Signature of person identified or facsimile
145 thereof; * * *
- 146 (l) Such other information as required by the
147 department * * *; and
- 148 (m) Such additional reference and resource information
149 requirements specified in Section 45-35-3.



150 (2) The identification card for persons with disabilities
151 shall bear an identification card number which shall not be the
152 same as the applicant's social security number. The commissioner
153 shall prescribe the form of identification cards issued pursuant
154 to this article to persons who are not United States citizens.
155 The identification cards of such persons shall include a number
156 and any other identifying information prescribed by the
157 commissioner.

158 **SECTION 5.** All personnel employed by and all students
159 enrolled and attending state-supported postsecondary educational
160 institutions under the governing purview of the Board of Trustees
161 of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the Mississippi
162 Community College Board and the board of trustees of a community
163 college district, as prescribed in Chapter 101, Title 37,
164 Mississippi Code of 1972, and Chapter 69, Title 37, Mississippi
165 Code of 1972, respectively, shall be issued a identification card
166 to be worn or kept on their person at all times while on campus
167 property. Any identification card issued under the authority of
168 this section, whether physical or in an electronic format, shall
169 include the words, "Crisis Lifeline - Dial or text 988, or chat
170 988lifeline.org".

171 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
172 and after July 1, 2024.

