

By: Representatives Harness, Paden

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 948

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-7-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT PROBATION OFFICERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM SUPERVISING
3 MORE THAN 75 CASES AT ANY ONE TIME; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 47-7-33. (1) When it appears to the satisfaction of any
8 circuit court or county court in the State of Mississippi having
9 original jurisdiction over criminal actions, or to the judge
10 thereof, that the ends of justice and the best interest of the
11 public, as well as the defendant, will be served thereby, such
12 court, in termtime or in vacation, shall have the power, after
13 conviction or a plea of guilty, except in a case where a death
14 sentence or life imprisonment is the maximum penalty which may be
15 imposed, to suspend the imposition or execution of sentence, and
16 place the defendant on probation as herein provided, except that
17 the court shall not suspend the execution of a sentence of
18 imprisonment after the defendant shall have begun to serve such



19 sentence. In placing any defendant on probation, the court, or
20 judge, shall direct that such defendant be under the supervision
21 of the Department of Corrections.

22 (2) When any circuit or county court places an offender on
23 probation, the court shall give notice to the Mississippi
24 Department of Corrections within fifteen (15) days of the court's
25 decision to place the offender on probation. Notice shall be
26 delivered to the central office of the Mississippi Department of
27 Corrections and to the regional office of the department which
28 will be providing supervision to the offender on probation. When
29 the provision of supervision is provided by a probation officer,
30 the Mississippi Department of Corrections is prohibited from
31 allocating more than seventy-five (75) cases to any probation
32 officer at any one time.

33 (3) When any circuit court or county court places a person
34 on probation in accordance with the provisions of this section and
35 that person is ordered to make any payments to his or her family,
36 if any member of his or her family whom he is ordered to support
37 is receiving public assistance through the State Department of
38 Human Services, the court shall order him or her to make such
39 payments to the county welfare officer of the county rendering
40 public assistance to his or her family, for the sole use and
41 benefit of * * * such family.

42 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
43 and after July 1, 2024.

