

By: Representative Hall

To: State Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 1129

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "RECOGNIZING JUDEA AND SAMARIA ACT"; TO  
2 PROHIBIT STATE AGENCIES FROM USING THE TERM "WEST BANK" IN  
3 OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT MATERIALS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
6 "Recognizing Judea and Samaria Act."

7 **SECTION 2.** It is the intent of the Legislature to refer to  
8 the land controlled by Israel from Jordan during the Six-Day War  
9 by its historical name of "Judea and Samaria", with the land south  
10 of Jerusalem being considered "Judea" and the land north of  
11 Jerusalem being considered "Samaria"; and No longer use the term  
12 "West Bank" in official government materials.

13 **SECTION 3.** The following words and phrases have the meanings  
14 as provided in this section unless the context clearly indicates  
15 otherwise:

16 (a) "Official government material" means a guidance,  
17 rule, material, briefing, press release, or communication prepared  
18 by a state agency; and



19 (b) "State agency" means every department, division,  
20 office, board, commission, and institution of this state.

21 **SECTION 4.** (a) Except as provided under subsection (b) of  
22 this section, a state agency shall not use the term "West Bank" to  
23 refer to Judea and Samaria in an official government material.  
24 A state agency shall not use state monies to create an official  
25 government material that refers to Judea and Samaria as "West  
26 Bank".

27 (b) The executive head of a state agency may waive the  
28 prohibition under subsection (a) of this section if the executive  
29 head determines that it is in the interests of the state to do so,  
30 and submits a written explanation of the waiver no later than  
31 thirty (30) days after the date on which the executive head of the  
32 state agency makes a determination under this section to the:

33 (i) Legislature, if the Legislature is in session;  
34 or  
35 (ii) Governor, if the Legislature is not in  
36 session.

37 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
38 and after July 1, 2026.

