

By: Representatives Varner, Blackwell, Boyd (19th), Boyd (37th), Lott, McLean, McMillan, Tubb, Waldo, Nelson

To: Judiciary B; Accountability, Efficiency, Transparency

HOUSE BILL NO. 1371

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRANSPARENCY ACT; TO  
2 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CREATE A REGISTRY THAT  
3 INCLUDES IDENTIFYING INFORMATION FOR ANY PERSON CONVICTED ONE OR  
4 MORE TIMES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; TO REQUIRE ANY PERSON WITH MORE  
5 THAN ONE CONVICTION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO REGISTER WITH THE  
6 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; TO REQUIRE THE APPLICABLE COURT CLERK  
7 TO SEND THE REQUIRED INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
8 SAFETY UPON CONVICTION OR RELEASE; TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS AND TIME  
9 PERIODS FOR WHICH THE REGISTRANT'S INFORMATION MUST BE REMOVED; TO  
10 PROVIDE THAT THIS ACT APPLIES TO PERSONS CONVICTED FOR DOMESTIC  
11 VIOLENCE ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2026; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as "The  
14 Domestic Violence Transparency Act".

15 **SECTION 2.** For purposes of this act, unless the context  
16 requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings  
17 ascribed herein:

18 (a) "Conviction" means a judgment entered by a  
19 Mississippi court upon a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo  
20 contendere, or a finding of guilt by a jury or the court,  
21 notwithstanding any pending appeal or habeas corpus proceeding



22 arising from the judgment. "Conviction" includes a disposition by  
23 nonadjudication under Section 99-15-26.

24 (b) "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.

25 (c) "Offender" means a person with more than one (1)  
26 conviction for a registrable offense.

27 (d) "Registrable offense" means a crime chargeable  
28 under Sections 99-3-7, or chargeable as "Domestic Violence" as  
29 defined by Section 93-21-125.

30 (e) "Registrant" means a person who is registered in  
31 compliance with this act.

32 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Department of Public Safety shall create  
33 and post a publicly accessible registry that lists qualifying  
34 information for any person convicted one (1) or more times of  
35 domestic violence as defined by this act.

36 (2) (a) The list shall include the offender's full legal  
37 name, any aliases by which the offender is or has been known,  
38 including any online or Internet identifiers, the offender's date  
39 of birth and a photograph of the offender.

40 (b) The list shall not include the offender's social  
41 security number, driver's license number, any other state or  
42 federal identification number, physical address or telephone  
43 numbers.

44 (3) (a) The department shall remove all identifying  
45 information of a registrant in this act upon the occurrence of:



46 (i) Five (5) years after the date of the most  
47 recent conviction for an offense committed against a domestic  
48 abuse victim if the offender has no more than one (1) prior  
49 conviction for an offense committed against a domestic abuse  
50 victim;

51 (ii) Seven (7) years after the date of the most  
52 recent conviction for an offense committed against a domestic  
53 abuse victim if the registrant has no more than two (2) prior  
54 convictions for an offense committed against a domestic abuse  
55 victim;

56 (iii) Ten (10) years after the date of the most  
57 recent conviction for an offense committed against a domestic  
58 abuse victim if the registrant has no more than three (3) prior  
59 convictions for an offense committed against a domestic abuse  
60 victim; or

61 (iv) Twenty (20) years after the date of the most  
62 recent conviction for an offense committed against a domestic  
63 abuse victim if the offender has four (4) or more prior  
64 convictions for an offense committed against a domestic abuse  
65 victim; and

66 (b) All fines, penalties and any restitution imposed on  
67 the offender are paid in full.

68 (4) Any registered person may petition the department to be  
69 removed from the list after the satisfaction of the conditions of  
70 this subsection. Upon receipt and confirmation of a true and



71 correct petition, the department shall remove the offender from  
72 the registry.

73 **SECTION 4.** (1) The department shall maintain the registry  
74 on the Internet, which shall contain a disclaimer informing the  
75 public that:

76 (a) The information contained on the website is  
77 obtained from public records, and the department does not  
78 guarantee the website's accuracy or completeness;

79 (b) The list only includes persons convicted in  
80 Mississippi state courts of domestic violence crimes. Persons who  
81 are convicted in any federal court, or who are convicted of a  
82 crime other than a registrable offense will not appear on the  
83 registry.

84 (2) The department and any individual or entity acting at  
85 the request or upon the direction of the department are immune  
86 from civil liability for damages arising from reporting  
87 information under this act and will be presumed to have acted in  
88 good faith in performing its duties under this chapter.

89 **SECTION 5.** (1) Upon the entry of any order sentencing the  
90 offender to probation or parole or upon the date of release of the  
91 offender from the physical custody of the responsible agency, the  
92 applicable court clerk shall check applicable records to determine  
93 whether the offender has been convicted of any other crime of  
94 domestic violence as defined by this act. If the offender has  
95 one or more prior convictions, the applicable court clerk shall



96 forward a copy of the conviction, sentencing order, name, sex,  
97 date of birth and photograph of the offender to the Department of  
98 Public Safety.

99 (2) An offender required to register on the basis of a  
100 conviction entered shall register with the Department of Public  
101 Safety and pay a registration fee of One Hundred Fifty Dollars  
102 (\$150.00) within thirty (30) business days of the date of judgment  
103 unless the offender is immediately confined or committed, in which  
104 case the offender shall register before release in accordance with  
105 the procedures established by the department.

106 **SECTION 6.** (1) The Department of Public Safety shall  
107 promulgate rules in accordance with the Mississippi Administrative  
108 Procedures Law to effectuate the purposes of this act.

109 (2) The provisions of this act shall only apply to persons  
110 convicted of an offense committed against a domestic abuse victim  
111 that occurred on or after July 1, 2026; provided, however, that a  
112 prior conviction is not required to occur on or after July 1,  
113 2026.

114 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
115 and after July 1, 2026.

