By: Representatives Gipson, Bomgar To: Judiciary B

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1033

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT INCARCERATION SHALL NOT AUTOMATICALLY FOLLOW THE NONPAYMENT OF A FINE, RESTITUTION, OR COURT COSTS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OF THE PERIOD OF INCARCERATION IMPOSED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND THE TERM OF THE SENTENCE 5 ORIGINALLY IMPOSED MAY NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM TERM OF IMPRISONMENT AUTHORIZED FOR THE OFFENSE; TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE HOW NOTICE OF DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION 7 IS PROVIDED; TO AMEND SECTIONS 99-19-20, 99-37-7 AND 47-1-1, 8 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE PRECEDING SECTIONS; 9 TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-71, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO LIMIT THE 10 SUSPENSION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE UNIFORM 11 12 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES LAW TO VIOLATIONS OF DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES; TO AMEND SECTION 47-7-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT AN OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE 14 INMATE FOR PAROLE SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE IF AN INMATE HAS 15 16 NOT BEEN CONVICTED OF COMMITTING A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, DRUG 17 TRAFFICKING OR AS A HABITUAL OFFENDER AND HE OR SHE HAS SERVED AT 18 LEAST 25% OF HIS OR HER SENTENCE; TO AMEND SECTION 9-23-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE ELIGIBILITY FOR DRUG COURTS; 19 20 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 22 **SECTION 1.** (1) Incarceration shall not automatically follow
- 23 the nonpayment of a fine, restitution, or court costs.
- 24 Incarceration may be employed only after the court has conducted a
- 25 hearing and examined the reasons for nonpayment and finds, on the
- 26 record, that the defendant was indigent or could have made payment
- 27 but refused to do so. When determining whether a person is

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    indigent, the court shall use the current Federal Poverty
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    Guidelines and there shall be a presumption of indigence when a
    defendant's income is at or below one hundred twenty-five percent
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    (125%) of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, subject to a review of
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    his or her assets. A defendant at or below one hundred
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    twenty-five percent (125%) of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
    without substantial liquid assets available to pay fines, fees,
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    and costs shall be deemed indigent. In determining whether a
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    defendant has substantial liquid assets, the judge shall not
    consider up to Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) in tangible
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    personal property, including motor vehicles, household goods, cash
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    on hand, or any other assets or monies exempted from seizure under
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    execution or attachment as provided under Section 85-3-1.
    defendant is above one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the
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    Federal Poverty Guidelines, the judge shall make an individualized
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    assessment of his or her ability to pay based on the totality of
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    the circumstances including, but not limited to, the defendant's
    disposable income, financial obligations and liquid assets.
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    the judge determines that a defendant who claims indigence is not
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    indigent and the defendant could have made payment but refused to
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    do so, the case file shall include a written explanation of the
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    basis for the determination of the judge.
                                              In justice and
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    municipal court, such finding shall be included in the court's
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    order.
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- 52 If it appears to the satisfaction of the court that 53 nonpayment is not willful, the court shall enter an order that allows the defendant additional time for payment, reduces the 54 amount of each installment, revokes the fine, order of restitution 55 56 or the unpaid portion thereof, in whole or in part, or allows the 57 defendant to perform community service at the state minimum wage per hour rate. If the court finds nonpayment is willful after 58 consideration of the defendant's situation, means, and conduct 59 60 with regard to the nonpayment, the court shall determine the 61 period of incarceration, if any, subject to the limitations set by 62 law and subsection (3) of this section. Any county or circuit court judge is authorized to order a defendant to participate in a 63 64 joint state-county work program, if the defendant meets the eligibility requirements, as provided under this section, and if 65 the district attorney and sheriff of the county agree to the 66 67 participation.
- (3) If, at the time the fine, restitution or court cost is ordered, a sentence of incarceration is also imposed, the aggregate total of the period of incarceration imposed pursuant to this section and the term of the sentence originally imposed may not exceed the maximum term of imprisonment authorized for the offense.
- 74 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-1-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 75 amended as follows:

76 (1)Upon failure of any person to respond timely 77 and properly to a summons or citation charging such person with any violation of this title, or upon failure of any person to pay 78 79 timely any fine, fee or assessment levied as a result of any violation of this title, the clerk of the court shall give written 80 81 notice to such person by United States first-class mail at his 82 last known address advising such person that, if within ten (10) 83 days after such notice is deposited in the mail, the person has 84 not properly responded to the summons or citation or has not paid 85 the entire amount of all fines, fees and assessments levied, then 86 the court will give notice thereof to the Commissioner of Public 87 Safety and the commissioner may suspend the driver's license of 88 such person. The actual cost incurred by the court in the giving 89 of such notice may be added to any other court costs assessed in such case. If within ten (10) days after the notice is given in 90 91 accordance with this subsection such person has not satisfactorily 92 disposed of the matter pending before the court, then the clerk of the court immediately shall mail a copy of the abstract of the 93 94 court record, along with a certified copy of the notice given 95 under this subsection, to the commissioner, and the commissioner 96 may suspend the driver's license of such person as authorized 97 under subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

The commissioner is hereby authorized to suspend the

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101	(a)	Has	committed	an	offense	for	which	mandatory

- 102 revocation of license is required upon conviction except under the
- 103 provisions of the Mississippi Implied Consent Law;
- 104 (b) Has been involved as a driver in any accident
- 105 resulting in the death or personal injury of another or serious
- 106 property damage;
- 107 (c) Is an habitually reckless or negligent driver of a
- 108 motor vehicle;
- 109 (d) Has been convicted with such frequency of serious
- 110 offenses against traffic regulations governing the movement of
- 111 vehicles as to indicate a disrespect for traffic laws and a
- 112 disregard for the safety of other persons on the highways;
- 113 (e) Is incompetent to drive a motor vehicle;
- (f) Has permitted an unlawful or fraudulent use of such
- 115 license;
- 116 (q) Has committed an offense in another state which if
- 117 committed in this state would be grounds for suspension or
- 118 revocation;
- (h) Has failed to pay any fine, fee or other assessment
- 120 levied as a result of any violation of this title;
- (i) Has failed to respond to a summons or citation
- 122 which charged a violation of this title; or
- 123 (j) Has committed a violation for which mandatory
- 124 revocation of license is required upon conviction, entering a plea

- of nolo contendere to, or adjudication of delinquency, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of Section 63-1-71.
- 127 Notice that a person's license is suspended or will be suspended under subsection (2) of this section shall be given by 128 129 the commissioner in the manner and at the time provided for under 130 Section 63-1-52 * * *. Upon such person's request, he or she shall be afforded an opportunity for * * * an administrative 131 132 review or hearing, as necessary, * * * in accordance with the 133 rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner. * * * The 134 commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, may administer oaths and * * * issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses * * *, 135 136 the production of relevant books and papers and may require a 137 reexamination of the licensee. * * * Notice that a person's 138 license is suspended or will be suspended under subsection (2) of this section shall be given by the commissioner in the manner and 139 140 at the time provided for under Section 63-1-52. Upon such person's request, he shall be afforded an opportunity for an 141 administrative review or hearing, as necessary, in accordance with 142 143 the rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The 144 commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, may administer oaths 145 and issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses, the production of relevant books and papers and may require a 146
 - (4) If a licensee has not paid all cash appearance bonds authorized under Section 99-19-3 or all fines, fees or other

reexamination of the licensee.

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- 150 assessments levied as a result of a violation of this title within
- 151 ninety (90) days after the commissioner has suspended the license
- of a person under subsection (2)(i) of this section, the court is
- authorized to pursue collection under Section 21-17-1(6) or
- 154 19-3-41(2) as for any other delinquent payment, and shall be
- 155 entitled to collection of all additional fees authorized under
- 156 those sections.
- 157 **SECTION 3.** Section 99-19-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 158 amended as follows:
- 159 99-19-20. (1) Except as otherwise provided under Section 1
- 160 of this act for courts, when any court sentences a defendant to
- 161 pay a fine, the court may order (a) that the fine be paid
- 162 immediately, or (b) that the fine be paid in installments to the
- 163 clerk of * * * the court or to the judge, if there be no clerk, or
- 164 (c) that payment of the fine be a condition of probation, or (d)
- 165 that the defendant be required to work on public property for
- 166 public benefit under the direction of the sheriff for a specific
- 167 number of hours, or (e) any combination of the above.
- 168 (2) Except as otherwise provided under Section 1 of this act
- 169 for courts, the defendant may be imprisoned until the fine is paid
- 170 if the defendant is financially able to pay a fine and the court
- 171 so finds, subject to the limitations * * * provided under this
- 172 section. The defendant shall not be imprisoned if the defendant
- 173 is financially unable to pay a fine and so states to the court in
- 174 writing, under oath, after sentence is pronounced, and the court

- 175 so finds, except if the defendant is financially unable to pay a
- 176 fine and such defendant failed or refused to comply with a prior
- 177 sentence as specified in subsection (1) of this section, the
- 178 defendant may be imprisoned.
- 179 This subsection shall be limited as follows:
- 180 (a) In no event shall such period of imprisonment
- 181 exceed one (1) day for each * * * One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of
- 182 the fine. * * *
- 183 (b) If a sentence of imprisonment, as well as a fine,
- 184 were imposed, the aggregate of such term for nonpayment of a fine
- 185 and the original sentence of imprisonment shall not exceed the
- 186 maximum authorized term of imprisonment.
- 187 (c) It shall be in the discretion of the judge to
- 188 determine the rate of the credit to be earned for work performed
- 189 under subsection (1)(d), but the rate shall be no lower than Nine
- 190 Dollars (\$9.00) per hour or the rate of the highest current
- 191 federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.
- 192 (3) Periods of confinement imposed for nonpayment of two (2)
- 193 or more fines shall run consecutively unless specified by the
- 194 court to run concurrently.
- 195 **SECTION 4.** Section 99-37-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 196 amended as follows:
- 197 99-37-7. (1) Subject to the provisions of Section 1 of this
- 198 act, when a defendant sentenced to pay a fine or to make
- 199 restitution defaults in the payment thereof or of any installment,

- the court, on motion of the district attorney, or upon its own motion, may require him to show cause why his default should not be treated as contempt of court, and may issue a show cause citation or a warrant of arrest for his appearance.
- 204 (2) Subject to the provisions of Section 1 of this act,
 205 unless the defendant shows that his default was not attributable
 206 to an intentional refusal to obey the order of the court or to a
 207 failure on his part to make a good faith effort to make the
 208 payment, the court may find that his default constitutes contempt
 209 and may order him committed until the fine or the restitution, or
 210 a specified part thereof, is paid.
- (3) A judicial officer shall not be held criminally or
 civilly liable for failure of any defendant to pay any fine or to
 make restitution if the officer exercises his judicial authority
 in accordance with subsections (1) and (2) of this section to
 require the payment of such fine or restitution.
- 216 (4) When a fine or an order of restitution is imposed on a
 217 corporation or unincorporated association, it is the duty of the
 218 person authorized to make disbursement from the assets of the
 219 corporation or association to pay the fine or make the restitution
 220 from those assets, and his failure to do so may be held to be
 221 contempt unless he makes the showing required in subsection (2) of
 222 this section.
- 223 **SECTION 5.** Section 47-1-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 224 amended as follows:

225	47-1-1. Every convict sentenced to imprisonment in the
226	county jail, or to such imprisonment and the payment of a fine, or
227	the payment of a fine, shall be committed to jail, and shall
228	remain in close confinement for the full time specified for
229	imprisonment in the sentence of the court, and in like
230	confinement, subject to the provisions of Section 1 of this act,
231	until the fine, costs and jail fees be fully paid, unless
232	discharged in due course of law, or as hereinafter provided.
233	* * * Subject to the provisions of Section 1 of this act, no
234	convict shall be held in continuous confinement under a conviction
235	for any one (1) offense for failure to pay fine and costs in such
236	case for a period of more than two (2) years.
237	SECTION 6. Section 63-1-71, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
237238	SECTION 6. Section 63-1-71, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
238	amended as follows:
238239	amended as follows: $ 63-1-71. \hspace{0.5cm} \text{(1)} \hspace{0.5cm} \bigstar \hspace{0.5cm} \bigstar \hspace{0.5cm} \text{Notwithstanding the provisions of } $
238239240	amended as follows: $63-1-71. \hspace{0.2in} (1) \hspace{0.2in} \bigstar \hspace{0.2in} \bigstar \hspace{0.2in} \texttt{Notwithstanding the provisions of}$ Section $63-11-30(2)(a)$ and in addition to any penalty authorized
238239240241	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute
238239240241242	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute indicating the dispositions that can be ordered for an
238239240241242243	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute indicating the dispositions that can be ordered for an adjudication of delinquency, every person convicted of driving
238 239 240 241 242 243 244	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute indicating the dispositions that can be ordered for an adjudication of delinquency, every person convicted of driving under the influence of a controlled substance, or entering a plea
238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute indicating the dispositions that can be ordered for an adjudication of delinquency, every person convicted of driving under the influence of a controlled substance, or entering a plea of nolo contendere thereto, or adjudicated delinquent therefor, in
238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246	amended as follows: 63-1-71. (1) * * * Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-11-30(2)(a) and in addition to any penalty authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Law or any other statute indicating the dispositions that can be ordered for an adjudication of delinquency, every person convicted of driving under the influence of a controlled substance, or entering a plea of nolo contendere thereto, or adjudicated delinquent therefor, in a court of this state, and every person convicted of driving under

the laws of the United States, another state, a territory or

250 possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, shall forthwith forfeit his right to 251 252 operate a motor vehicle over the highways of this state for a 253 period of not less than six (6) months. In the case of any person 254 who at the time of the imposition of sentence does not have a 255 driver's license or is less than fifteen (15) years of age, the 256 period of the suspension of driving privileges authorized herein 257 shall commence on the day the sentence is imposed and shall run 258 for a period of not less than six (6) months after the day the person obtains a driver's license or reaches the age of fifteen 259 260 (15) years. If the driving privilege of any person is under 261 revocation or suspension at the time of any conviction or 262 adjudication of delinquency for * * * driving under the influence 263 of a controlled substance, the revocation or suspension period 264 imposed herein shall commence as of the date of termination of the 265 existing revocation or suspension.

(2) The court in this state before whom any person is convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for * * * driving under the influence of a controlled substance shall collect forthwith the Mississippi driver's license of the person and forward such license to the Department of Public Safety along with a report indicating the first and last day of the suspension or revocation period imposed pursuant to this section. If the court is for any reason unable to collect the license of the person, the court shall cause a report of the conviction or adjudication of

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275 delinquency to be filed with the Commissioner of Public Safety. 276 That report shall include the complete name, address, date of 277 birth, eye color and sex of the person and shall indicate the 278 first and last day of the suspension or revocation period imposed 279 by the court pursuant to this section. The court shall inform the 280 person orally and in writing that if the person is convicted of 281 personally operating a motor vehicle during the period of license 282 suspension or revocation imposed pursuant to this section, the 283 person shall, upon conviction, be subject to the penalties set 284 forth in Section 63-11-40. A person shall be required to 285 acknowledge receipt of the written notice in writing. Failure to 286 receive a written notice or failure to acknowledge in writing the 287 receipt of a written notice shall not be a defense to a subsequent 288 charge of a violation of Section 63-11-40. If the person is the 289 holder of a driver's license from another jurisdiction, the court 290 shall not collect the license but shall notify forthwith the 291 Commissioner of Public Safety who shall notify the appropriate 292 officials in the licensing jurisdiction. The court shall, 293 however, in accordance with the provisions of this section, revoke 294 the person's nonresident driving privilege in this state.

(3) The county court or circuit court having jurisdiction, on petition, may reduce the suspension of driving privileges under this section if the denial of which would constitute a hardship on the offender. When the petition is filed, such person shall pay to the circuit clerk of the court where the petition is filed a

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fee of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for each year, or portion thereof, of license revocation or suspension remaining under the original sentence, which shall be deposited into the State General Fund to the credit of a special fund hereby created in the State Treasury to be used for alcohol or drug abuse treatment and education, upon appropriation by the Legislature. This fee shall be in addition to any other court costs or fees required for the filing of petitions.

SECTION 7. Section 47-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 309 amended as follows:

47-7-3. (1) Every prisoner who has been convicted of any offense against the State of Mississippi, and is confined in the execution of a judgment of such conviction in the Mississippi Department of Corrections for a definite term or terms of one (1) year or over, or for the term of his or her natural life, whose record of conduct shows that such prisoner has observed the rules of the department, and who has served not less than one-fourth (1/4) of the total of such term or terms for which such prisoner was sentenced, or, if sentenced to serve a term or terms of thirty (30) years or more, or, if sentenced for the term of the natural life of such prisoner, has served not less than ten (10) years of such life sentence, may be released on parole as hereinafter provided, except that:

323	(a) No prisoner convicted as a confirmed and habitual
324	criminal under the provisions of Sections 99-19-81 through
325	99-19-87 shall be eligible for parole;
326	(b) Any person who shall have been convicted of a sex
327	crime shall not be released on parole except for a person under
328	the age of nineteen (19) who has been convicted under Section
329	97-3-67 ;
330	(c) (i) No person shall be eligible for parole who
331	shall, on or after January 1, 1977, be convicted of robbery or
332	attempted robbery through the display of a firearm until he shall
333	have served ten (10) years if sentenced to a term or terms of more
334	than ten (10) years or if sentenced for the term of the natural
335	life of such person. If such person is sentenced to a term or
336	terms of ten (10) years or less, then such person shall not be
337	eligible for parole. The provisions of this paragraph (c)(i)
338	shall also apply to any person who shall commit robbery or
339	attempted robbery on or after July 1, 1982, through the display of
340	a deadly weapon. This paragraph (c)(i) shall not apply to persons
341	convicted after September 30, 1994;
342	(ii) No person shall be eligible for parole who
343	shall, on or after October 1, 1994, be convicted of robbery,
344	attempted robbery or cariacking as provided in Section 97-3-115 et

seq., through the display of a firearm or drive-by shooting as

provided in Section 97-3-109. The provisions of this paragraph

(c)(ii) shall also apply to any person who shall commit robbery,

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348 attempted robbery, carjacking or a drive-by shooting on or after

349 October 1, 1994, through the display of a deadly weapon. This

350 paragraph (c)(ii) shall not apply to persons convicted after July

351 1, 2014;

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352 (d) No person shall be eligible for parole who, on or

353 after July 1, 1994, is charged, tried, convicted and sentenced to

354 life imprisonment without eligibility for parole under the

355 provisions of Section 99-19-101;

356 (e) No person shall be eligible for parole who is

357 charged, tried, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment under

358 the provisions of Section 99-19-101;

359 (f) No person shall be eliqible for parole who is

360 convicted or whose suspended sentence is revoked after June 30,

361 1995, except that an offender convicted of only nonviolent crimes

362 after June 30, 1995, may be eligible for parole if the offender

363 meets the requirements in subsection (1) and this paragraph. In

364 addition to other requirements, if an offender is convicted of a

365 drug or driving under the influence felony, the offender must

366 complete a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program prior to parole

or the offender may be required to complete a post-release drug

368 and alcohol program as a condition of parole. For purposes of

369 this paragraph, "nonviolent crime" means a felony other than

370 homicide, robbery, manslaughter, sex crimes, arson, burglary of an

371 occupied dwelling, aggravated assault, kidnapping, felonious abuse

372 of vulnerable adults, felonies with enhanced penalties, the sale

- 373 or manufacture of a controlled substance under the Uniform
- 374 Controlled Substances Law, felony child abuse, or exploitation or
- 375 any crime under Section 97-5-33 or Section 97-5-39(2) or
- 376 97-5-39(1)(b), 97-5-39(1)(c) or a violation of Section
- 377 63-11-30(5). In addition, an offender incarcerated for committing
- 378 the crime of possession of a controlled substance under the
- 379 Uniform Controlled Substances Law after July 1, 1995, shall be
- 380 eligible for parole. An offender incarcerated for committing the
- 381 crime of sale or manufacture of a controlled substance shall be
- 382 eligible for parole after serving one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence
- 383 imposed by the trial court. This paragraph (f) shall not apply to
- 384 persons convicted on or after July 1, 2014;
- 385 (g) (i) No person who, on or after July 1, 2014, is
- 386 convicted of a crime of violence pursuant to Section 97-3-2, a sex
- 387 crime or an offense that specifically prohibits parole release,
- 388 shall be eligible for parole. All persons convicted of any other
- 389 offense on or after July 1, 2014, are eligible for parole after
- 390 they have served one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence or sentences
- 391 imposed by the trial court.
- 392 (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions in paragraph
- 393 (i) of this subsection, a person serving a sentence who has
- 394 reached the age of sixty (60) or older and who has served no less
- 395 than ten (10) years of the sentence or sentences imposed by the
- 396 trial court shall be eligible for parole. Any person eligible for
- 397 parole under this subsection shall be required to have a parole

398	hearing	before	the	board	prior	to	parole	e rei	lease.	No	inmate	shal	1
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- 399 be eligible for parole under this paragraph of this subsection if:
- 400 1. The inmate is sentenced as a habitual
- 401 offender under Sections 99-19-81 through 99-19-87;
- 402 2. The inmate is sentenced for a crime of
- 403 violence under Section 97-3-2;
- 3. The inmate is sentenced for an offense
- 405 that specifically prohibits parole release;
- 406 4. The inmate is sentenced for trafficking in
- 407 controlled substances under Section 41-29-139(f);
- 408 5. The inmate is sentenced for a sex crime;
- 409 or
- 410 6. The inmate has not served one-fourth (1/4)
- 411 of the sentence imposed by the court.
- 412 (iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of
- 413 paragraph * * * (a) of this subsection, any offender who has not
- 414 committed a crime of violence under Section 97-3-2 and has served
- 415 twenty-five percent (25%) or more of his sentence may be paroled
- 416 by the parole board if, after the sentencing judge or if the
- 417 sentencing judge is retired, disabled or incapacitated, the senior
- 418 circuit judge authorizes the offender to be eligible for parole
- 419 consideration.
- 420 (h) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an
- 421 inmate who has not been convicted as a habitual offender pursuant
- 422 to Sections 99-19-81 through 99-19-87 or has not been convicted of

- 423 committing a crime of violence, as defined under Section 97-3-2,
- 424 or convicted of drug trafficking pursuant to Section 41-29-139 and
- 425 such inmate has served twenty-five percent (25%) or more of his or
- 426 her sentence, but is otherwise ineligible for parole, shall be
- 427 eligible for parole.
- 428 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an inmate
- 429 shall not be eligible to receive earned time, good time or any
- 430 other administrative reduction of time which shall reduce the time
- 431 necessary to be served for parole eligibility as provided in
- 432 subsection (1) of this section.
- 433 (3) The State Parole Board shall, by rules and regulations,
- 434 establish a method of determining a tentative parole hearing date
- 435 for each eligible offender taken into the custody of the
- 436 Department of Corrections. The tentative parole hearing date
- 437 shall be determined within ninety (90) days after the department
- 438 has assumed custody of the offender. The parole hearing date
- 439 shall occur when the offender is within thirty (30) days of the
- 440 month of his parole eligibility date. The parole eligibility date
- 441 shall not be earlier than one-fourth (1/4) of the prison sentence
- 442 or sentences imposed by the court.
- 443 (4) Any inmate within twenty-four (24) months of his parole
- 444 eligibility date and who meets the criteria established by the
- 445 classification board shall receive priority for placement in any
- 446 educational development and job training programs that are part of
- 447 his or her parole case plan. Any inmate refusing to participate

- 448 in an educational development or job training program that is part
- 449 of the case plan may be in jeopardy of noncompliance with the case
- 450 plan and may be denied parole.
- 451 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-23-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 452 amended as follows:
- 9-23-15. (1) (a) In order to be eligible for alternative
- 454 sentencing through a local drug court, the participant must
- 455 satisfy each of the following criteria:
- 456 (* * *i) The participant cannot have any felony
- 457 convictions for any offenses that are crimes of violence as
- 458 defined in Section 97-3-2 within the previous ten (10) years,
- 459 except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- 460 (\star \star *ii) The crime before the court cannot be a
- 461 crime of violence as defined in Section 97-3-2, except as provided
- 462 in paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- 463 (* * *iii) Other criminal proceedings alleging
- 464 commission of a crime of violence cannot be pending against the
- 465 participant.
- 466 (* * *iv) The participant cannot be currently
- 467 charged with burglary of a dwelling under Section 97-17-23(2) or
- 468 97-17-37.
- 469 (* * *v) The crime before the court cannot be a
- 470 charge of driving under the influence of alcohol or any other drug
- 471 or drugs that resulted in the death of a person.

472		(* * * <u>vi</u>)	The crime	charged cannot	t be one of
473	trafficking in	controlled	substances	under Section	41-29-139(f)
474	nor can the pa	rticipant ha	ve a prior	conviction for	r same.

- (b) A judge, in his or her discretion, may authorize a

 person who has been charged, convicted or who is before the court

 for burglary of an unoccupied dwelling under Section 97-17-23(1)

 for eligible participation for alternative sentencing through a

 local drug court.
 - (2) Participation in the services of an alcohol and drug intervention component shall be open only to the individuals over whom the court has jurisdiction, except that the court may agree to provide the services for individuals referred from another drug court. In cases transferred from another jurisdiction, the receiving judge shall act as a special master and make recommendations to the sentencing judge.
- 487 (a) As a condition of participation in a drug court, a 488 participant may be required to undergo a chemical test or a series 489 of chemical tests as specified by the drug court. A participant 490 is liable for the costs of all chemical tests required under this 491 section, regardless of whether the costs are paid to the drug 492 court or the laboratory; however, if testing is available from 493 other sources or the program itself, the judge may waive any fees 494 for testing.

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495	(b)	A la	borator	ry th	nat perfo	orms	a c	hemic	al	test	unde	r
496	this section	shall	report	the	results	of t	he	test	to	the	drug	
497	court.											

- (4) A person does not have a right to participate in drug court under this chapter. The court having jurisdiction over a person for a matter before the court shall have the final determination about whether the person may participate in drug court under this chapter.
- 503 SECTION 9. Any person who supervises an individual placed on parole by the Parole Board or placed on probation by the court 504 505 shall set the times and locations for meetings that are required 506 for parole or probation at such times and locations that are 507 reasonably designed to accomodate the work schedule of an 508 individual on parole or probation who is employed by another 509 person or entity. The provisions of this section shall not apply 510 to an individual who is self employed.
- 511 SECTION 10. Section 6 of this act shall take effect and be
 512 in force from and after the date the Legislature passes a
 513 concurrent resolution stating its opposition to a law that
 514 complies with 23 USCS Section 159 and the Governor certifies his
 515 opposition of such law to the United States Secretary of
 516 Transportation and the remainder of this act shall take effect and
 517 be in force from and after July 1, 2017.