


It's the Law: Bills that Became Law in the 2019 Legislation Session




SCR 596 – CONVENTION OF THE STATES RESOLUTION

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

 **HB 1352**
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
REFORM ACT

- Removes certain barriers for reentry
- Expands state's drug court system

 **SB 2781**
MISSISSIPPI FRESH
START ACT

- Removes any automatic bars to occupational licenses due to prior felony conviction.

 **SB 2141**
CREATES TERRORISTIC
THREAT OFFENSE

- Creates a new crime with an automatic 10-year sentence
- Criminalizes crude speech

EDUCATION

 **HB 654**
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

- Requires runoff election in county school board trustee elections if no candidate receives majority of votes cast

 **HB 1182**

- Prohibits corporal punishment in public schools to discipline students with a disability

VOTER REFORM

 **SB 2237**
INELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

- Automatically disenfranchises citizens convicted of certain crimes from qualifying as a candidate

VOTER REFORM (CONTINUED)

 **SB 2030**
RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS
FOR ELECTIONS

- Codifies residency requirements for city and county offices at 2 years, and 5 years for transportation and agricultural commissioners and district attorneys

EQUALITY

 **SB 2328**
FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH
ACT OF 2019

- Aligns with the criminal rules of procedure
- Provides constitutional protections for individuals charged with a felony and deemed incompetent to stand trial due to a mental health issue

 **SB 2116**
"HEARTBEAT" BILL

- Limits a woman's right to make her own personal reproductive healthcare decisions
- Bans most abortions once a fetal heartbeat can be detected, typically at about six weeks

FREE SPEECH

 **SB 2922**
MEAT LABELING BILL

- Prohibits the labeling of plant-based, like veggie burgers, and cell-based meat, thereby censoring speech
- Unnecessary as federal law already prohibits false or misleading labels

Please note this chart is reflective of legislation that is relevant to the ACLU of Mississippi's centers of focus.

Bill Tracking

#msleg

During the 2019 Mississippi Legislative Session, we tracked a total of 145 bills.

- Criminal Justice Reform
 - 44 Supported
 - 19 Opposed
 - 2 Neutral
- Equality
 - 31 Supported
 - 7 Opposed
- Voter Rights
 - 23 Supported
 - 3 Opposed
- Educational Equity
 - 11 Supported
 - 5 Opposed

The 2019 Legislative Scorecard will be released during the fall.

These laws go into effect on July 1, 2019.
Learn more at www.aclu-ms.org. Search #msleg.

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