MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2021

By: Representatives Bell (21st), Gibbs (72nd)

To: Corrections

HOUSE BILL NO. 537

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-195, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR ANY PERSON, EMPLOYEE OF ANY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY OR INCARCERATED OFFENDER WHO POSSESSES CERTAIN CONTRABAND AT A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 47-5-195, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

47-5-195. (1) Any person who violates any provision of Section 47-5-193 or 47-5-194 shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be punished by confinement in the Penitentiary for not less than three (3) years nor more than fifteen (15) years, and may be fined not more than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00), or both.

(2) Any person who violates any provision of Section 47-5-193 as it pertains to illegal drugs or a cell phone or any of its components or accessories to include, but not limited to, Subscriber Information Module (SIM) cards or charger shall be punished as authorized under this section, and, in the discretion

of the court, may be punished up to twice that authorized under this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2021.

ST: Cell phones and certain other contraband; provide enhanced penalities for offenders and correctional employees.