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Chapter No. 379

13/SS26/R483

AA 182/01

***SENATE BILL NO. 2255***

Originated in Senate

*Inzelich*

Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 2255

AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS "KAREN'S LAW"; TO AMEND SECTION 97-3-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE MAXIMUM IMPRISONMENT FOR PERSONS WHO WERE OVER THE AGE OF 21 WHEN CONVICTED OF THE HOMICIDE OF A CHILD OF A CERTAIN AGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 97-3-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

97-3-25. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person convicted of manslaughter shall be fined in a sum not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or imprisoned in the county jail not more than one (1) year, or both, or in the \* \* \* custody of the Department of Corrections not less than two (2) years, nor more than twenty (20) years.

(2) (a) A person is guilty of child homicide if:

(i) The person is found guilty of manslaughter in circumstances where the killing, although without malice, was intentional and not accidental; and

(ii) The perpetrator was over the age of twenty-one (21) years and the victim was a child under the age of eighteen (18) years.

(b) A person found guilty of child homicide shall be imprisoned in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a term not to exceed thirty (30) years.

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2013.

PASSED BY THE SENATE  
February 6, 2013

  
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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
March 12, 2013

  
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

  
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GOVERNOR

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