

In keeping with Governor Musgrove's effort to make state government more easily accessible through "electronic government," the Department of Public Safety lobbied for and got passage of a bill that will allow Mississippi drivers to renew their license via the Internet.

The Department of Public Safety also sponsored legislation that allows the issuance of nondriver's identification cards for children as young as six years of age. These ID's can be used at school functions and any other function whereby the young people need to have a specific ID card to gain entry or passage. Additionally, the nondriver's license gives youngsters a means by which they can be identified in the event of an emergency.

Another piece of legislation that was lobbied for by the Department of Public Safety was the stiffening of the penalties for the distribution of false identification cards. The new law, which goes into effect July 1, 2001, makes it a felony for anyone over the age of 21 to manufacture or distribute false ID's. The offense is punishable by a fine of no more than \$5,000 and a year in prison.