

By: Senator(s) Harden (By Request)

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2579
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-239, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO COMPENSATE MANAGERS WHO
3 ATTEND TRAINING SESSIONS CONDUCTED PRIOR TO THE ELECTION AS TO
4 THEIR DUTIES IN THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS AND THE
5 OPERATION OF THE POLLING PLACE; TO REQUIRE THE TIME AND LOCATION
6 OF SUCH TRAINING SESSIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC;
7 TO ALLOW POLL WATCHERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO ATTEND
8 SUCH SESSIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. Section 23-15-239, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 23-15-239. (1) The commissioners of election of each
13 county, in conjunction with the circuit clerk, shall sponsor and
14 conduct, not less than five (5) days prior to each election,
15 training sessions to instruct managers * * * as to their duties in
16 the proper administration of the election and the operation of the
17 polling place. No manager * * * shall serve in any election
18 unless he has received such instructions once during the twelve
19 (12) months immediately preceding the date upon which such
20 election is held; provided, however, that nothing in this section
21 shall prevent the appointment of an alternate manager to fill a
22 vacancy in case of an emergency. The commissioners of election
23 shall train a sufficient number of alternates to serve in the
24 event a manager * * * is unable to serve for any reason.

25 (2) The board of supervisors may, in their discretion,
26 compensate managers who attend such training sessions. Such
27 compensation shall be at a rate of not less than the federal
28 hourly minimum wage nor more than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per hour.
29 Managers shall not be compensated for more than two (2) hours of

30 attendance at such training sessions regardless of the actual
31 amount of time that they attended such training sessions.

32 (3) The time and location of the training sessions required
33 pursuant to this section shall be announced to the general public
34 by posting a notice thereof at the courthouse five (5) days prior
35 to the date upon which the training session is to be conducted,
36 and persons who will serve as poll watchers for candidates and
37 political parties, as well as members of the general public, shall
38 be allowed to attend such sessions.

39 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
40 is hereby directed to submit this act, immediately upon approval
41 by the Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to
42 a veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the
43 United States District Court for the District of Columbia in
44 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,
45 as amended and extended.

46 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
47 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
48 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.