

By: Senator(s) Turner

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2719

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-44, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 CREATE AN ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIP FOR THE SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT  
3 DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTION THEREOF; AND FOR RELATED  
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 9-7-44. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,  
9 there shall be two (2) judges for the Sixteenth Circuit Court  
10 District.

11 (2) From and after January 1, 2000, there shall be three (3)  
12 judges for the Sixteenth Circuit Court District. The initial term  
13 for the third judgeship created under this section shall begin on  
14 January 1, 2000, and shall end at the same time as the terms of  
15 circuit judges generally. The initial holder of the third  
16 judgeship shall not be appointed but shall be elected at a special  
17 election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of  
18 November, 1999, and all candidates therefor shall file their  
19 intent to be a candidate and pay the fee provided in Section  
20 23-15-977 not later than thirty (30) days prior to the general  
21 election; the election of the initial holder of the third  
22 judgeship shall otherwise be as required by law.

23 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
24 is directed to submit this act, immediately upon approval by the  
25 Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a  
26 veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the  
27 United States District Court for the District of Columbia in

28 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,  
29 as amended and extended.

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