By: Gordon To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 3111 (As Passed the Senate)

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-7-203 AND 37-7-703, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF SCHOOL 3 BOARDS OF MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND SPECIAL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER 5 DISTRICTS BY THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SUCH DISTRICTS, TO DIRECT THE SCHOOL BOARDS OF SUCH DISTRICTS TO APPORTION THE SCHOOL 6 7 DISTRICTS INTO FIVE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DISTRICTS, AND TO PRESCRIBE THE TIME AND MANNER OF SUCH ELECTIONS AND THE MANNER IN 8 9 WHICH VACANCIES ON THE SCHOOL BOARDS SHALL BE FILLED; TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-7-201 AND 37-7-221, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN 10 CONFORMITY THERETO; TO AMEND SECTION 37-5-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS OF COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION SHALL 11 12 13 BE ELECTED FOR STAGGERED FOUR-YEAR TERMS; TO REPEAL SECTION 14 37-7-204, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE 15 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM BOARD MEMBERS TO FILL CERTAIN VACANCIES ON 16 THE SCHOOL BOARDS OF COUNTYWIDE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL 17 DISTRICTS; TO REPEAL SECTIONS 37-7-209 THROUGH 37-7-219, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE CERTAIN METHODS FOR 18 ELECTING TRUSTEES FROM ADDED TERRITORY OF MUNICIPAL SEPARATE 19 SCHOOL DISTRICTS; TO REPEAL SECTIONS 37-7-705 THROUGH 37-7-717, 20 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE CERTAIN METHODS FOR 21 SELECTING TRUSTEES OF SPECIAL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS; 22 23 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: SECTION 1. Section 37-7-203, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 25 amended as follows:[MS1] 26 27 [Until January 1, 2001, this section will read as follows:] 37-7-203. (1) The boards of trustees of all municipal 28 separate school districts created under * * * this chapter, either 29 30 with or without added territory, shall consist of five (5) members, each to be chosen for a term of five (5) years, or for a 31 32 term expiring on the first Monday of January 2002, whichever period of time is shorter. Each member of the board of trustees 33 shall be chosen so that the term of office of one (1) member shall 34 35 expire each year unless the terms expire on the first Monday of 36 <u>January 2002</u>. In the event the added territory of a municipal

37 separate school district furnishes fifteen percent (15%) or more 38 of the pupils enrolled in the schools of such district, then at least one (1) member of the board of trustees of such school 39 district shall be a resident of the added territory outside the 40 41 corporate limits. In the event the added territory of a municipal 42 separate school district furnishes thirty percent (30%) or more of the pupils enrolled in the schools of such district, then not more 43 than two (2) members of the board of trustees of such school 44 district shall be residents of the added territory outside the 45 corporate limits. In the event the added territory of a municipal 46 47 separate school district in a county in which Mississippi Highways 8 and 15 intersect furnishes thirty percent (30%) or more of the 48 49 pupils enrolled in the schools of such district, then the five (5) 50 members of the board of trustees of such school district shall be elected at large from such school district for a term of five (5) 51 years each except that the two (2) elected trustees presently 52 serving on such board shall continue to serve for their respective 53 54 terms of office. The three (3) appointed trustees presently serving on such board shall continue to serve until their 55 56 successors are elected in March of 1975 in the manner provided for 57 in Section 37-7-215. At such election, one (1) trustee shall be 58 elected for a term of two (2) years, one (1) for a term of three (3) years and one (1) for a term of five (5) years. 59 Subsequent terms for each successor trustee shall be for five (5) years or 60 for a term expiring on the first Monday of January 2002, whichever 61 period of time is shorter. In the event one (1) of two (2) 62 63 municipal separate school districts located in any county with two (2) judicial districts, District 1 being comprised of Supervisors 64 65 Districts 1, 2, 4 and 5, and District 2 being comprised of 66 Supervisors District 3, with added territory embraces three (3) full supervisors districts of a county, one (1) trustee shall be 67 68 elected from each of the three (3) supervisors districts outside the corporate limits of the municipality. 69 In the further event 70 that the territory of a municipal separate school district located 71 in any county with two (2) judicial districts, District 1 being 72 comprised of Supervisors Districts 1, 2, 4 and 5, and District 2

being comprised of Supervisors District 3, with added territory

74 embraces four (4) full supervisors districts in the county, and in 75 any county in which a municipal separate school district embraces 76 the entire county in which Highways 14 and 15 intersect, one (1) 77 trustee shall be elected from each supervisors district. 78 Except as otherwise provided herein, the trustees of such a 79 municipal separate school district shall be elected by a majority of the governing authorities of the municipality at the first 80 81 meeting of the governing authorities held in the month of February of each year, and the term of office of the member so elected 82 shall commence on the first Saturday of March following. In the 83 case of a member of said board of trustees who is required to come 84 from the added territory outside the corporate limits as is above 85 86 provided, such member of the board of trustees shall be elected by 87 the qualified electors of the school district residing in such 88 added territory outside the corporate limits at the same time and in the same manner as is otherwise provided in this article for 89 the election of trustees of school districts other than municipal 90 separate school districts. 91 In the event that a portion of a county school district is 92 93 reconstituted, in the manner provided by law, into a municipal separate school district with added territory and in the event 94 95 that the trustees to be elected from the added territory are requested to be elected from separate election districts within 96 97 the added territory, instead of elected at-large, by the Attorney General of the United States as a result of and pursuant to 98 preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as 99 100 amended and extended, and in the event the added territory of a 101 municipal separate school district of a municipality furnishes 102 thirty percent (30%) or more of the pupils enrolled in the schools 103 of such district, then two (2) members of the board of trustees 104 shall be residents of the added territory outside the corporate 105 limits of such municipality and shall be elected from special trustee election districts by the qualified electors thereof as 106 107 herein provided. The governing authorities of such municipality 108 shall apportion the added territory into two (2) special trustee 109 election districts as nearly equal as possible according to 110 population and other factors heretofore pronounced by the courts.

111 The governing authorities of such municipality shall thereafter 112 publish the same in a newspaper of general circulation within the 113 school district for at least two (2) consecutive weeks; and after having given notice of publication and recording the same upon the 114 115 minutes of the governing authorities, the new district lines shall thereafter be effective. Any person elected from the new trustee 116 election districts constituted herein shall be elected in the 117 manner provided for in Section 37-7-215 for a term of five (5) 118 119 years or for a term expiring on the first Monday of January 2002, 120 whichever period of time is shorter. Any vacancy in the office of a trustee elected from such trustee election district, whether 121 122 occasioned by redistricting or by other cause, shall be filled by 123 appointment of the governing authorities of the municipality, 124 provided that the person so appointed shall serve only until the first Saturday of March following his appointment, at which time a 125 126 person shall be elected for the remainder of the unexpired term in 127 the manner provided in Section 37-7-215. 128 In any county organizing a countywide municipal separate 129 school district after January 1, 1965, the trustees thereof to be 130 elected from outside the municipality, such trustees shall be 131 elected by the board of supervisors of such county, and the superintendent of such school district shall have authority to pay 132 133 out and distribute the funds of the district. In the event a 134 municipal separate school district should occupy territory in a county other than that in which the municipality is located and 135 136 fifteen percent (15%) or more of the pupils enrolled in the schools of such district shall come from the territory of the 137 138 district in the county other than that in which the municipality is located, the territory of such county in which the municipality 139 140 is not located shall be entitled to one (1) member on the board of 141 trustees of such school district. The trustee shall be a resident of the territory of that part of the district lying in the county 142 143 in which the municipality is not located and shall be elected by

the qualified electors of the territory of such county at the same time and in the same manner as is provided for the election of trustees of school districts other than municipal separate school

147 districts having territory in two (2) or more counties.

148 All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired te

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All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired terms by appointment of the governing authorities of the municipality; except that in the case of the trustees coming from the added territory outside the corporate limits, the person so appointed shall serve only until the first Saturday of March following his appointment, at which time a person shall be elected for the remainder of the unexpired term in the manner otherwise provided herein.

No person who is a member of such governing body, or who is an employee of the municipality, or who is a member of the county board of education, or who is a trustee of any public, private or sectarian school or college located in the county, inclusive of the municipal separate school district, or who is a teacher in or a trustee of the school district, shall be eligible for appointment to the board of trustees.

In counties of less than fifteen thousand (15,000) (2) people having a municipal separate school district with added territory which embraces all the territory of a county, one (1) or more trustees of such district shall be nominated from each supervisors district upon petition of fifty (50) qualified electors of the district, or twenty percent (20%) of the qualified electors of such district, whichever number shall be smaller, and shall be elected by a plurality of the vote of the qualified electors of the county. One (1) trustee so elected shall reside in each supervisors district of the county. In such counties embraced entirely by a municipal separate school district there shall be no county board of education after the formation of such district and the county superintendent of education shall act as superintendent of schools of $\underline{\text{the}}$ district and shall be appointed

177 by the board of trustees of the district, and the provisions of 178 subsection (1) of this section and the first paragraph of Section 179 37-7-211 shall not apply to such districts. 180 [From and after January 1, 2001, this section will read as 181 follows:] (1) The <u>school</u> boards * * * of all municipal 182 37-7-203. separate school districts * * * shall consist of five (5) members. 183 184 Beginning in 2001, each member shall be elected from a special 185 school board member district, as provided for under subsection (2) of this section, by the qualified electors of that district. 186 (2) The school board of the municipal separate school 187 district shall apportion the municipal separate school district, 188 including any added territory, into five (5) single school board 189 member districts. The school board member districts shall be as 190 191 nearly equal as possible according to population. The school 192 board of the municipal separate school district shall submit the school board member district lines to the Attorney General of the 193 194 United States for preclearance or to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for a declaratory judgment in 195 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 196 as amended and extended. If the school board member district 197 198 lines are precleared by the United States Department of Justice or 199 approved by the United States District Court, the school board of the municipal separate school district shall place upon their 200 201 minutes the boundaries established for the five (5) school board 202 member districts, and the school board shall publish the boundaries in a newspaper of general circulation within the school 203 district for at least three (3) consecutive weeks. After having 204 205 given notice of publication and recording the publication upon the minutes of the school board, the school board member district 206 lines shall be effective. As soon as practicable after the 207 208 results of the 2010 decennial census and every decennial census

thereafter are published, the school board of the municipal

210	separate school district shall reapportion the school board member
211	districts in the manner prescribed in this subsection for the
212	creation of the original districts.
213	(3) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
214	2001, an election shall be held in every municipal separate school
215	district, in the same manner and at the same time as the general
216	elections are held, for the purpose of electing the members of the
217	school board of the municipal separate school district. At such
218	election the members of the board from Districts One and Two shall
219	be elected for a term of two (2) years and the members from
220	Districts Three, Four and Five shall be elected for a term of
221	three (3) years. Thereafter, members shall be elected at general
222	elections for terms of four (4) years. All members shall take
223	office on the first Monday of January following the date of their
224	election. Candidates for the school board of the municipal
225	separate school district shall file with the county election
226	commissioners, not more than ninety (90) days and not less than
227	sixty (60) days before the date of the general election, a
228	petition of nomination signed by at least fifty (50) or twenty
229	percent (20%) of the qualified electors of the school board member
230	district, whichever is less. The name of each qualified candidate
231	shall be placed on the ballot. The candidate in each school board
232	member district who receives a majority of the votes cast by the
233	qualified electors in that district shall be elected. However, if
234	no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a runoff election
235	shall be held two (2) weeks after the election. The names of the
236	candidate receiving the highest number of votes and the candidate,
237	or candidates in the event of a tie, receiving the next highest
238	vote for the office shall be placed on the ballot in the runoff
239	election. The person receiving the highest number of votes cast
240	by the qualified electors in the runoff election shall be elected.
241	Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, all persons
242	elected to serve on the school board of the municipal separate

243	school	district	shall	take	office	on	the	first	Monday	of	January	•
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- 244 next following the date of their election and shall serve for a
- 245 term of four (4) years.
- 246 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
- 247 contrary, in each municipal separate school district, the terms of
- 248 <u>all school board members, whether appointed or elected, existing</u>
- 249 on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2001 shall
- 250 <u>expire when their duly elected successors take office on the first</u>
- 251 Monday of January 2002.
- 252 (5) Whenever there is a vacancy in the membership of the
- 253 school board of the municipal separate school district, the
- 254 vacancy shall be filled, depending upon the length of the
- 255 <u>unexpired term of the vacated office, in the manner provided under</u>
- this subsection.
- 257 <u>(a) If the unexpired term of the vacated office is six</u>
- 258 (6) months or less, the remaining members of the school board
- 259 shall appoint, within sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs, a
- 260 person to serve the unexpired portion of the term. The appointee
- 261 shall be selected from the qualified electors of the school board
- 262 member district in which the vacancy occurs. The chairman of the
- 263 school board shall certify to the Secretary of State the fact of
- 264 the appointment, and the Governor shall commission the person
- 265 appointed.
- 266 (b) If the unexpired term of the vacated office is
- 267 greater than six (6) months, an election shall be held to fill the
- 268 <u>vacancy</u>. The school board shall certify in writing the fact of
- 269 the vacancy to the county election commission. Upon receipt of
- 270 <u>certification of the vacancy from the school board, the county</u>
- 271 <u>election commission shall make and enter on its minutes an order</u>
- 272 for an election to be held in the school board member district in
- 273 which the vacancy exists, which election, notice thereof and
- 274 <u>ballot shall be controlled by the laws concerning special</u>
- 275 <u>elections to fill vacancies in county and county district offices.</u>

276	(c) The county election commission shall give a
277	certificate of election to the person elected and shall return to
278	the Secretary of State a copy of the order of holding the election
279	and its results. The Governor shall commission the person elected
280	to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
281	SECTION 2. Section 37-7-703, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
282	amended as follows:
283	[Until January 1, 2001, this section will read as follows:]
284	37-7-703. In all such special municipal separate school
285	districts which embrace the entire county in which, according to
286	the latest available federal census, a majority of the inhabitants
287	of the county reside within the corporate limits of the
288	municipality, the board of trustees of such special municipal
289	separate school district shall be chosen and selected in the
290	manner provided by subsection (1) of Section 37-7-203, and all of
291	the provisions thereof shall be fully applicable in all respects
292	to the selection and constitution of such board of trustees.
293	[From and after January 1, 2001, this section will read as
293 294	[From and after January 1, 2001, this section will read as follows:]
294	follows:]
294 295	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate
294 295 296	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the
294 295 296 297	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the
294 295 296 297 298	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section.
294 295 296 297 298 299	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal
294 295 296 297 298 299	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school
294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school board member district by the qualified electors of that district.
294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school board member district by the qualified electors of that district. The school board of the special municipal separate school
294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school board member district by the qualified electors of that district. The school board of the special municipal separate school district shall apportion the special municipal separate school
294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school board member district by the qualified electors of that district. The school board of the special municipal separate school district shall apportion the special municipal separate school district, including any added territory, into five (5) single
294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305	follows:] 37-7-703. (1) In all * * * special municipal separate school districts, beginning in 2001, the school board * * * of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected in the manner provided in this section. (2) Each member of the school board of the special municipal separate school district shall be elected from a special school board member district by the qualified electors of that district. The school board of the special municipal separate school district shall apportion the special municipal separate school district, including any added territory, into five (5) single school board member districts. The school board member districts

309	Attorney General of the United States for preclearance or to the
310	United States District Court for the District of Columbia for a
311	declaratory judgment in accordance with the provisions of the
312	Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended. If the school
313	board member district lines are precleared by the United States
314	Department of Justice or approved by the United States District
315	Court, the school board of the special municipal separate school
316	district shall place upon its minutes the boundaries established
317	for the five (5) school board member districts, and the school
318	board shall publish the boundaries in a newspaper of general
319	circulation within the school district for at least three (3)
320	consecutive weeks. After having given notice of publication and
321	recording the publication upon the minutes of the school board,
322	the school board member district lines shall be effective. As
323	soon as practicable after the results of the 2010 decennial census
324	and every decennial census thereafter are published, the school
325	board of the special municipal separate school district shall
326	reapportion the school board member districts in the manner
327	prescribed in this subsection for the creation of the original
328	districts.
329	(3) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
330	2001, an election shall be held in every special municipal
331	separate school district, in the same manner and at the same time
332	as the general elections are held, for the purpose of electing the
333	members of the school board of the special municipal separate
334	school district. At such election the members of the board from
335	Districts One and Two shall be elected for a term of two (2) years
336	and the members from Districts Three, Four and Five shall be
337	elected for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, members shall
338	be elected at general elections for terms of four (4) years. All
339	members shall take office on the first Monday of January following
340	the date of their election. Candidates for the school board of
341	the special municipal separate school district shall file with the

342 county election commissioners, not more than ninety (90) days and not less than sixty (60) days before the date of the general 343 344 election, a petition of nomination signed by at least fifty (50) or twenty percent (20%) of the qualified electors of the school 345 346 board member district, whichever is less. The name of each 347 qualified candidate shall be placed on the ballot. The candidate in each school board member district who receives a majority of 348 the votes cast by the qualified electors in that district shall be 349 elected. However, if no candidate receives a majority of the 350 351 votes, a runoff election shall be held two (2) weeks after the election. The names of the candidate receiving the highest number 352 353 of votes and the candidate, or candidates in the event of a tie, 354 receiving the next highest vote for the office shall be placed on the ballot in the runoff election. The person receiving the 355 highest number of votes cast by the qualified electors in the 356 runoff election shall be elected. Except as otherwise provided in 357 358 this subsection, all persons elected to serve on the school board of the municipal separate school district shall take office on the 359 360 first Monday of January next following the date of their election 361 and shall serve for a term of four (4) years. 362 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the 363

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in each special municipal separate school district, the terms of all school board members, whether appointed or elected, existing on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2001 shall expire when their duly elected successors take office on the first Monday of January 2002.

(5) Whenever there is a vacancy in the membership of the school board of the special municipal separate school district, the vacancy shall be filled, depending upon the length of the unexpired term of the vacated office, in the manner provided under this subsection.

373 (a) If the unexpired term of the vacated office is six
374 (6) months or less, the remaining members of the school board

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3/5	shall appoint, within sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs, a
376	person to serve the unexpired portion of the term. The appointee
377	shall be selected from the qualified electors of the school board
378	member district in which the vacancy occurs. The chairman of the
379	school board shall certify to the Secretary of State the fact of
380	the appointment, and the Governor shall commission the person
381	appointed.
382	(b) If the unexpired term of the vacated office is
383	greater than six (6) months, an election shall be held to fill the
384	vacancy. The school board shall certify in writing the fact of
385	the vacancy to the county election commissioners. Upon receipt of
386	certification of the vacancy from the school board, the county
387	election commission shall make and enter on its minutes an order
388	for an election to be held in the school board member district in
389	which the vacancy exists, which election, notice thereof and
390	ballot shall be controlled by the laws concerning special
391	elections to fill vacancies in county and county district offices.
392	(c) The clerk of the county election commission shall
393	give a certificate of election to the person elected and shall
394	return to the Secretary of State a copy of the order of holding
395	the election and its results, certified by the election
396	commission. The Governor shall commission the person elected to
397	serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
398	SECTION 3. Section 37-7-201, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
399	amended as follows:
400	[Until January 1, 2001, this section will read as follows:]
401	37-7-201. In order for a person to be eligible to hold the
402	office of trustee of any school district, such person must be a
403	bona fide resident and a qualified elector of such school
404	district, and, in the case of a school district lying in two (2)
405	or more counties, but not including municipal separate school
406	districts, such person must be a bona fide resident and a
407	qualified elector of the territory entitled to such representation

408 on the board.

409 [From and after January 1, 2001, this section will read as

410 **follows:**]

- 411 37-7-201. In order for a person to be eligible to hold the
- 412 office of school board member of any school district, the person
- 413 must be a bona fide resident and a qualified elector of * * * the
- 414 school board member district entitled to such representation on
- 415 the <u>school</u> board.
- SECTION 4. Section 37-7-221, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 417 amended as follows:
- 418 37-7-221. The election of consolidated or consolidated line
- 419 school district trustees shall be held in the manner provided for
- 420 in Sections 37-7-223 to 37-7-229 * * *.
- 421 <u>SECTION 5.</u> Section 37-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 422 amended as follows: [MS2]
- 423 37-5-7. (1) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
- 424 May, 1954, an election shall be held in each county in this state
- 425 in the same manner as general state and county elections are held
- 426 and conducted, which election shall be held for the purpose of
- 427 electing the county boards of education established under the
- 428 provisions of this chapter. At such election, the members of the
- 429 said board from Supervisors Districts One and Two shall be elected
- 430 for the term expiring on the first Monday of January, 1957;
- 431 members of the board from Supervisors Districts Three and Four
- 432 shall be elected for a term expiring on the first Monday of
- 433 January, 1959; and the member of the board from Supervisors
- 434 District Five shall be elected for a term expiring on the first
- 435 Monday of January, 1955. Except as otherwise provided in
- 436 subsections (2) and (3) of this section, all subsequent members of
- 437 the board shall be elected for a term of six (6) years at the
- 438 regular general election held on the first Monday in November next
- 439 preceding the expiration of the term of office of the respective
- 440 member or members of such board. All members of the county board

of education as herein constituted, shall take office on the first Monday of January following the date of their election.

- (2) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, in any year in which any county shall elect to utilize the authority contained in Section 37-5-1(2), an election shall be held in each such county in this state for the purpose of electing the county boards of education in such counties. At said election the members of the said county board of education from Districts One and Two shall be elected for a term of four (4) years, the members from Districts Three and Four shall be elected for a term of six (6) years, and the member from District Five shall be elected for a term of (2) years. Thereafter, except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, members shall be elected at general elections as vacancies occur for terms of six (6) years each. All members of the county board of education shall take office on the first Monday of January following the date of their election.
- November 2001, an election shall be held in every countywide school district, in the same manner and at the same time as the general elections are held, for the purpose of electing the members of the county board of education. At such election the members of the board from Districts One and Two shall be elected for a term of two (2) years and the members from Districts Three, Four and Five shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. All members shall take office on the first Monday of January following the date of their election. Thereafter, members shall be elected at general elections for terms of four (4) years.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the

 contrary, in each county school district, the terms of all school

 board members existing on the first Tuesday after the first Monday

 in November 2001, shall expire when their duly elected successors

 take office on the first Monday of January 2002

- 474 SECTION $\underline{6}$. Section 37-7-204, Mississippi Code of 1972, which
- 475 provides for the appointment of interim board members to fill
- 476 certain vacancies on the school boards of countywide municipal
- 477 separate school districts, shall stand repealed from and after
- 478 January 1, 2001.
- 479 SECTION 7. Sections 37-7-209, 37-7-211, 37-7-213, 37-7-215,
- 480 37-7-217 and 37-7-219, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provide
- 481 certain methods for electing trustees from added territory of
- 482 municipal separate school districts, shall stand repealed from and
- 483 after January 1, 2001.
- 484 SECTION 8. Sections 37-7-705, 37-7-707, 37-7-709, 37-7-711,
- 485 37-7-713, 37-7-715 and 37-7-717, Mississippi Code of 1972, which
- 486 provide various methods for selecting trustees of special
- 487 municipal separate school districts, shall stand repealed from and
- 488 after January 1, 2001.
- 489 SECTION $\underline{9}$. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
- 490 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
- 491 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
- 492 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
- 493 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
- 494 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
- 495 extended.
- 496 SECTION <u>10</u>. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 497 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
- 498 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.