

By: Representatives Formby, Cameron, Chism,
Davis, Fillingane, Jennings, Masterson,
Robertson, Snowden, Lott

To: Apportionment and
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 931

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-367, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT IN ALL ELECTIONS THE CANDIDATES' NAMES SHALL BE
3 ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY ON THE BALLOT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 23-15-367, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-367. (1) Except as otherwise provided by Sections
8 23-15-974 through 23-15-985 and subsection (2) of this section,
9 * * * the order in which the titles of the various offices shall
10 be printed, and the size, print and quality of paper of the
11 official ballot is left to the discretion of the officer charged
12 with printing the official ballot * * *.

13 (2) The titles for the various offices shall be listed in
14 the following order:

- 15 (a) Candidates for national office;
- 16 (b) Candidates for statewide office;
- 17 (c) Candidates for state district office;
- 18 (d) Candidates for legislative office;
- 19 (e) Candidates for countywide office;
- 20 (f) Candidates for county district office.

21 The order in which the titles for the various offices are
22 listed within each of the categories listed in this subsection is
23 left to the discretion of the officer charged with printing the
24 official ballot.

25 (3) It is the duty of the Secretary of State, with the
26 approval of the Governor, to furnish the designated commissioner
27 of each county a sample of the official ballot, not less than

28 fifty-five (55) days prior to the election, the general form of
29 which shall be followed as nearly as practicable; provided that
30 names of the candidates for each separate office shall be arranged
31 alphabetically.

32 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
33 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
34 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
35 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
36 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
37 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
38 extended.

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