

By: Senator(s) Bryan

To: Education; Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2549

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-5-71, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROHIBIT VOTERS WITHIN CERTAIN LINE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
3 FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ELECTION OF THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF  
4 EDUCATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 37-5-71, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 37-5-71. (1) The county superintendents of education shall  
9 be elected in the manner prescribed by the provisions of this  
10 chapter, unless such office be made appointive as provided in this  
11 chapter, in which case the county superintendent shall be  
12 appointed by the county board of education or by the trustees of a  
13 separate school district embracing an entire county with a  
14 population of fifteen thousand (15,000) or less, as provided in  
15 subsection (2) of Section 37-7-203. In all cases he shall have  
16 such qualifications as prescribed by Section 37-9-13 and receive  
17 such compensation as established under Section 37-9-37.

18 (2) All qualified electors residing within any municipal  
19 separate or special municipal separate school district shall not  
20 vote in the election for the county superintendent of education:

21 (a) In all counties of the second class which have a  
22 population, according to the 1960 federal decennial census of at  
23 least thirty-three thousand (33,000) and less than thirty-four  
24 thousand (34,000), and having a city located therein which is the  
25 Southern Division of the A.T. & S.F. Railroad Company;

26 (b) In all counties of the fourth class which have a  
27 population, according to the 1960 federal decennial census, in

28 excess of twenty-six thousand (26,000) and less than twenty-seven  
29 thousand (27,000), and having located therein the Mississippi  
30 State University of Agriculture and Applied Science;

31 (c) In all counties of the first class which have a  
32 population, according to the 1960 federal decennial census, in  
33 excess of forty-six thousand (46,000) and less than forty-seven  
34 thousand (47,000), and having located therein the Mississippi  
35 University for Women;

36 (d) In any county bordering on the Mississippi Sound  
37 and having a population in excess of one hundred thousand  
38 (100,000), according to the 1960 federal decennial census, and  
39 having an assessed valuation in excess of Seventy Million Dollars  
40 (\$70,000,000.00);

41 (e) In any county having a population in excess of  
42 eight thousand (8,000) and less than nine thousand (9,000), and  
43 having an assessed valuation in excess of Five Million Dollars  
44 (\$5,000,000.00) but less than Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000.00)  
45 in 1960;

46 (f) In any county having a population in excess of  
47 twenty-two thousand (22,000) and less than twenty-three thousand  
48 (23,000) in 1960, and having a total assessed valuation in excess  
49 of Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) in 1960;

50 (g) In any county having a population in excess of  
51 fifty-nine thousand (59,000) but less than sixty thousand  
52 (60,000), according to the 1960 federal decennial census;

53 (h) In any county bordered on the east by the Alabama  
54 line and on the south by the Mississippi Sound;

55 (i) In any county where Mississippi Highway 35 crosses  
56 U.S. Highway 80 and whose population, according to the 1960  
57 regular census, was between twenty-one thousand (21,000) and  
58 twenty-two thousand (22,000), and in which there are located four  
59 (4) or more chicken packing plants, one (1) zipper plant and one  
60 or more factories manufacturing Sunbeam electrical appliances;

61           (j) In any county having a population of twenty-six  
62 thousand one hundred ninety-eight (26,198) according to the 1970  
63 census wherein Highways 51 and 84 intersect;

64           (k) In any county having a municipal separate school  
65 district lying therein, having a population in excess of  
66 twenty-one thousand (21,000) but less than twenty-one thousand  
67 five hundred (21,500), according to the 1960 decennial census, and  
68 having a combined assessed valuation in 1963 in excess of Sixteen  
69 Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$16,900,000.00) but less  
70 than Seventeen Million Dollars (\$17,000,000.00) according to the  
71 State Tax Commission's compilation;

72           (l) In any county where Mississippi Highway 15 crosses  
73 Mississippi Highway 16, whose population was more than twenty  
74 thousand (20,000) and less than twenty-one thousand (21,000),  
75 according to the regular 1960 census, and within which there is  
76 located a Choctaw Indian reservation and school operated by the  
77 United States government;

78           (m) In any county where U.S. Highway 45W Alternate  
79 intersects Mississippi Highway 50, and having a population of  
80 eighteen thousand nine hundred thirty-three (18,933), according to  
81 the 1960 federal census;

82           (n) In any county having a population in excess of  
83 forty thousand five hundred (40,500), according to the 1960  
84 federal decennial census, wherein U.S. Highways 78 and 45  
85 intersect, and wherein there is a United States fish hatchery;

86           (o) In any county being traversed by Mississippi  
87 Highway 15 and U.S. Interstate Highway 20;

88           (p) In all counties wherein there is located a national  
89 military park and a national cemetery;

90           (q) In any county where U.S. Highway 82 crosses U.S.  
91 Interstate Highway 55 and having a population of twelve thousand  
92 three hundred eighty-seven (12,387) according to the 1990 federal  
93 decennial census;

94           (r) In any county where U.S. Highway 49E and U.S.  
95 Highway 82 intersect, and having a population of thirty-seven  
96 thousand three hundred forty-one (37,341) according to the 1990  
97 federal decennial census.

98           In any such county, however, the county superintendent of  
99 education may be a resident of a municipal separate school  
100 district or special municipal separate school district.

101           (3) The qualified electors residing within the municipal  
102 separate school districts shall not participate in the election of  
103 the county superintendent of education:

104           (a) In any county having a population of more than  
105 twenty-seven thousand (27,000) and less than twenty-eight thousand  
106 (28,000) and containing therein a municipality having a population  
107 in excess of three thousand (3,000), according to the 1960 federal  
108 decennial census;

109           (b) In any Class 1 county wherein is located a  
110 state-supported university and a National Guard camp, and in which  
111 Interstate Highway 59 and U.S. Highway 49 intersect;

112           (c) In any Class 4 county having two (2) judicial  
113 districts, wherein is partially located a national forest, and  
114 wherein Mississippi Highways 8 and 15 intersect;

115           (d) In any Class 2 county, the southern boundary of  
116 which partially borders on the State of Louisiana, traversed by  
117 U.S. Highway 98 which intersects Mississippi Highway 13, with a  
118 land area of five hundred fifty (550) square miles and having a  
119 population of twenty-three thousand two hundred ninety-three  
120 (23,293) in the 1960 federal decennial census;

121           (e) In any county bordering on the Gulf of Mexico or  
122 the Mississippi Sound having therein a test facility operated by  
123 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

124           (f) In any county having a population in excess of  
125 twenty-seven thousand one hundred seventy-nine (27,179) according

126 to the 1970 federal decennial census, wherein U.S. Highways 45 and  
127 72 intersect; and

128 (g) In any Class 1 county bordering on the Pearl River  
129 in which U.S. Highway 80 intersects Mississippi Highway 18 and  
130 having a population, according to the federal decennial census of  
131 1970, of forty-three thousand nine hundred thirty-three (43,933).

132 (4) The county superintendent of education, with the  
133 approval of the county board of education by its first having  
134 adopted a resolution of approval and spread upon its minutes,  
135 shall be elected from the county at large, exclusive of the  
136 municipal separate school district boundaries:

137 (a) In any county bordering on the State of Tennessee  
138 having a land area of seven hundred ten (710) square miles,  
139 wherein is located part of a national forest, and wherein U.S.  
140 Highway 78 and Mississippi Highway 7 intersect;

141 (b) In any Class 4 county wherein is located the  
142 state's oldest state-supported university, in which Mississippi  
143 Highways 6 and 7 intersect; and

144 (c) In any county having a population in excess of  
145 seventeen thousand (17,000) and less than eighteen thousand  
146 (18,000), according to the 1970 federal decennial census, wherein  
147 Mississippi Highways 6 and 9 intersect.

148 (5) In any county having a municipality of between  
149 forty-nine thousand (49,000) and fifty thousand (50,000)  
150 population according to the 1960 federal census, and adjoining the  
151 Alabama line, wherein U.S. Highways 80 and 45 intersect, the  
152 qualified electors residing within any municipal separate school  
153 district shall not participate in the election of the county  
154 superintendent of education, and such county superintendent of  
155 education shall not be a resident of a municipal separate school  
156 district.

157 (6) In any county traversed by the Natchez Trace Parkway  
158 wherein U.S. Highway 45 and Mississippi Highway 4 intersect and

159 having a population of seventeen thousand nine hundred forty-nine  
160 (17,949) according to the 1960 federal census, the qualified  
161 electors residing within any municipal separate school district  
162 shall not participate in the election of the county superintendent  
163 of education, and such county superintendent of education shall  
164 not be a resident of a municipal separate school district.

165 (7) The qualified electors residing within any line  
166 consolidated school district located within any county wherein  
167 U.S. Highway 45 and Mississippi Highway 6 intersect and having a  
168 population of sixty-five thousand five hundred eighty-one (65,581)  
169 according to the 1990 federal census, and within any county  
170 wherein U.S. Highway 45 and Mississippi Highway 8 intersect and  
171 having a population of thirty-six thousand five hundred eighty-two  
172 (36,582) according to the 1990 federal census, shall not  
173 participate in the election of the county superintendent of  
174 education, however, the county superintendent of education may be  
175 a resident of such line consolidated school district.

176 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
177 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
178 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
179 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
180 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
181 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
182 extended.

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