

By: Senator(s) Turner

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2833

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-19-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL  
3 PERFORMANCE; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-977, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
4 TO REVISE THE FILING OF INTENT TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR JUDICIAL  
5 OFFICE; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-1021, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
6 REVISE PERMITTED CONTRIBUTIONS TO JUDICIAL CAMPAIGNS FOR OFFICE;  
7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 9-19-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 9-19-1. The Commission on Judicial Performance shall consist  
12 of the following members:

13 (a) One (1) circuit court judge to be appointed by the  
14 Conference of Circuit Court Judges;

15 (b) One (1) chancellor to be appointed by the  
16 Conference of Chancery Court Judges;

17 (c) One (1) county court judge to be appointed by the  
18 Conference of County Court Judges;

19 (d) One (1) justice court judge to be appointed by the  
20 Mississippi Justice Court Officers Association;

21 (e) One (1) practicing attorney to be appointed by the  
22 Governing Board of The Mississippi Bar; and

23 (f) Two (2) lay persons who shall not be residents of  
24 the same Supreme Court district to be appointed by the Chief  
25 Justice of the Supreme Court of Mississippi. \* \* \*

26 An alternate for each member shall be selected at the time  
27 and in the manner prescribed for initial appointments in each

28 representative class to replace those members who might be  
29 disqualified or absent.

30 SECTION 2. Section 23-15-977, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
31 amended as follows:

32 23-15-977. (1) All candidates for judicial office as  
33 defined in Section 23-15-975 of this subarticle shall file their  
34 intent to be a candidate with the proper officials not later than  
35 5:00 p.m. on the first Friday after the first Monday in August  
36 prior to the general election for judicial office and shall pay to  
37 the proper officials the following amounts:

38 (a) Candidates for Supreme Court judge and Court of  
39 Appeals, the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00).

40 (b) Candidates for circuit judge and chancellor, the  
41 sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

42 (c) Candidates for county judge and family court judge,  
43 the sum of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00).

44 (2) Candidates for judicial offices listed in paragraphs (a)  
45 and (b) of subsection (1) of this section shall file their intent  
46 to be a candidate with, and pay the proper assessment made  
47 pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to, the State Board of  
48 Election Commissioners.

49 (3) Candidates for judicial offices listed in paragraph (c)  
50 of subsection (1) of this section shall file their intent to be a  
51 candidate with, and pay the proper assessment made pursuant to  
52 subsection (1) of this section to, the circuit clerk of the proper  
53 county. The circuit clerk shall notify the county commissioners  
54 of election of all persons who have filed their intent to be a  
55 candidate filed with, and paid the proper assessment to, such  
56 clerk. Such notification shall occur within two (2) business days  
57 and shall contain all necessary information.

58 SECTION 3. Section 23-15-1021, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
59 amended as follows:

60           23-15-1021. It shall be unlawful for any individual or  
61 political action committee not affiliated with a political party,  
62 corporation, incorporated company or incorporated association, by  
63 whatever name it may be known, incorporated or organized under the  
64 laws of this state, or doing business in this state, or for any  
65 servant, agent, employee or officer thereof to give, donate,  
66 appropriate or furnish directly or indirectly, any money,  
67 security, funds or property in excess of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars  
68 (\$250.00) for the purpose of aiding any candidate or candidate's  
69 political committee for judge of a county, circuit or chancery  
70 court or in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the  
71 purpose of aiding any candidate or candidate's political committee  
72 for judge of the Court of Appeals or justice of the Supreme Court,  
73 or to give, donate, appropriate or furnish directly or indirectly,  
74 any money, security, funds or property in excess of Two Hundred  
75 Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to any candidate or the candidate's  
76 political committee for judge of a county, circuit or chancery  
77 court or in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the  
78 purpose of aiding any candidate or candidate's political committee  
79 for judge of the Court of Appeals or justice of the Supreme Court,  
80 as a contribution to the expense of a candidate for judicial  
81 office.

82           SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
83 and after July 1, 2001.