

By: Senator(s) Cuevas

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2845

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (3) It is the duty of the Secretary of State, with the  
27 approval of the Governor, to furnish the designated commissioner

28 of each county a sample of the official ballot, not less than  
29 fifty-five (55) days before the election, the general form of  
30 which shall be followed as nearly as practicable; provided that in  
31 all elections the names of the candidates for each separate office  
32 shall be arranged alphabetically.

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

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