AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-3-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROHIBIT MEMBERS OF THE HIGHWAY PATROL FROM RUNNING FOR SHERIFF BEFORE EXPIRATION OF TEN YEARS AFTER RETIREMENT OR TERMINATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 45-3-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

45-3-11. No member of the patrol shall, while in such position, be a candidate for any political office or take part in or contribute any money or other things of value, directly or indirectly, to any political campaign or to any candidate for public office. No member of the patrol may be a candidate for the office of sheriff until ten (10) years after the member retires or otherwise terminates employment with the patrol. Anyone violating this provision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon final conviction shall be punished as provided by law, and shall be dismissed from the patrol.

It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit or attempt to solicit any money or thing of value from any employee of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol for political purposes. Any person violating this provision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon final conviction shall be punished as provided by law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2002.