

By: Representatives Reynolds, Scott (80th)

To: Apportionment and Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 1445
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A COUNTY OR
2 MUNICIPALITY IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND THE COMMISSIONERS OF
3 ELECTION OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY IN OTHER ELECTIONS TO APPOINT
4 NOT MORE THAN TWO STUDENTS AT EACH PRECINCT TO SERVE AS STUDENT
5 INTERNS DURING ELECTIONS; TO SET CERTAIN MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
6 FOR SUCH INTERNS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DUTIES OF SUCH INTERNS; TO
7 REQUIRE STUDENT INTERNS TO RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAINING; AND FOR
8 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) The officials in charge of the election in a
11 county or municipality may, in their discretion, appoint not more
12 than two (2) students for each precinct to serve as student
13 interns during elections. To be appointed a student intern a
14 student must:

15 (a) Be recommended by a principal or other school
16 official, or the person responsible for the student's legitimate
17 home instruction program;

18 (b) Be at least sixteen (16) years of age at the time
19 of the election for which the appointment is made;

20 (c) Be a resident of the county or municipality for
21 which the appointment is made;

22 (d) Be enrolled in a public high school, an accredited
23 private high school or a legitimate home instruction program and
24 be classified as a junior or senior or its equivalent, or be
25 enrolled in a junior college or a college or university; and

26 (e) Meet any additional qualifications considered
27 necessary by the officials in charge of the election in the county
28 or municipality.

29 (2) (a) The duties of the student interns appointed
30 pursuant to this section shall be determined by the officials in



31 charge of the election in the county or municipality; however,
32 such duties shall not include:

33 (i) Determining the qualifications of a voter in
34 case a voter is challenged;

35 (ii) The discharge of any duties related to
36 affidavit ballots;

37 (iii) The operation and maintenance of any voting
38 equipment;

39 (iv) Any duties normally assigned to a bailiff; or

40 (v) The tallying of votes.

41 (b) Student interns shall at all times be under the
42 supervision of the managers and clerks of the election while
43 performing their duties at precincts.

44 (3) Before performing any duties, student interns shall
45 attend all required training for managers and clerks of the county
46 or municipality and any additional training considered necessary
47 by the officials in charge of the election in the county or
48 municipality.

49 (4) As used in this section "officials in charge of the
50 election" means the county or municipal executive committee, as
51 appropriate, in primary elections and the county or municipal
52 election commission, as appropriate, in all other elections.

53 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
54 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
55 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
56 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
57 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
58 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
59 extended.

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

