

By: Representative Moak

To: Apportionment and
Elections; Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1026

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-991 AND 23-15-993, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE CERTAIN TERMS IN CERTAIN SUPREME COURT
3 DISTRICTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-991, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-991. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection
8 (2), the term of office of judges of the Supreme Court shall be
9 eight (8) years. Concurrently with the regular election for
10 representatives in Congress, held next preceding the expiration of
11 the term of an incumbent, and likewise each eighth year
12 thereafter, an election shall be held in the Supreme Court
13 district from which such incumbent was elected at which there
14 shall be elected a successor to the incumbent, whose term of
15 office shall thereafter begin on the first Monday of January of
16 the year in which the term of the incumbent he succeeds expires.

17 (2) The terms of Office of Judge of the Supreme Court in
18 Supreme Court District Number 1, Position Number 1 and District
19 Number 2, Position Number 1, shall be seven (7) years for the term
20 2004-2011. This subsection shall stand repealed on January 1,
21 2011.

22 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-993, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
23 amended as follows:

24 23-15-993. For the purpose of all elections, each of the
25 nine (9) judgeships of the Supreme Court shall be considered a
26 separate office. The three (3) offices in each of the three (3)
27 Supreme Court districts shall be designated Position Number 1,



28 Position Number 2 and Position Number 3, and in qualifying for
29 office as a candidate for any office of judge of the Supreme Court
30 each candidate shall state the position number of the office to
31 which he aspires and the regular election ballots shall so
32 indicate. In Supreme Court District Number 1: Position Number 1
33 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 2011;
34 Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term ends in
35 January 1965; and Position Number 3 shall be that office for which
36 the term ends in January 1969. In District Number 2: Position
37 Number 1 shall be that office for which the term ends in January
38 2011; Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term
39 ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3 shall be for that
40 office for which the term ends in January 1973. In District
41 Number 3: Position Number 1 shall be that office for which the
42 term ends in January 1969; Position Number 2 shall be that office
43 for which the term ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3
44 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 1965.

45 **SECTION 3.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
46 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
47 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
48 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
49 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
50 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
51 extended.

52 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
53 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
54 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended; provided that House
55 Concurrent Resolution No. _____, 2003 Regular Session is ratified
56 by the electorate.

