HOUSE BILL NO. 1299

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-505, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO REQUIRE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF JASPER COUNTY TO PURCHASE 3 CERTAIN OPTICAL MARK READING EQUIPMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 4 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 6 7 SECTION 1. Section 23-15-505, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 8 amended as follows: 9 10 23-15-505. The board of supervisors of any county in the 11 State of Mississippi and the governing authorities of any 12 municipality in the State of Mississippi are hereby authorized and 13 empowered, in their discretion, to purchase or rent optical mark 14 reading equipment used in an electronic voting system which meets 15 the requirements of Section 23-15-507 and may use such system in 16 all or a part of the precincts within its boundaries. It may 17 enlarge, consolidate or alter the boundaries of precincts where an 18 electronic voting system is used. The provisions of this chapter 19 shall be controlling with respect to elections where any OMR 20 system is used, and shall be liberally construed so as to carry 21 out the purpose of this chapter. The provisions of the election 22 law relating to the conduct of elections with paper ballots, that 23 are to be manually tabulated, insofar as they are applicable and 24 not in conflict with the efficient conduct of the systems, shall 25 apply. 26 27 The Board of Supervisors of Jasper County shall purchase 28 optical mark reading equipment to scan ballots at the polling 29 places, provided that such purchase is paid for out of federal 30 funds administered and made available through the Office of the 31 Secretary of State.
SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

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