

**Adopted
AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Cmte Sub for Senate Bill No. 2857

BY: Senator(s) Ross, Chamberlin

1 **AMEND by inserting the following after line 1303 and by**
2 **renumbering subsequent sections accordingly:**

3 **SECTION *.** (1) There is created a task force to study
4 voting systems that comply with the Help America Vote Act of 2002
5 and their suitability for use in elections in Mississippi. The
6 task force shall make a report of its findings and recommendations
7 to the Legislature during the 2005 Regular Session, including any
8 recommended legislation.

9 (2) The task force shall be composed of the following
10 members:

11 (a) The Secretary of State, or his designee;

12 (b) The Chairman of the Elections Committee of the
13 Senate;

14 (c) The Chairman of the Apportionment and Elections
15 Committee of the House of Representatives;

16 (d) A circuit clerk appointed by the President of the
17 Mississippi Association of Circuit Clerks;

18 (e) A member of the general public who is not an
19 elected official or state employee, appointed by the Governor;

20 (f) A member of the general public who is not an
21 elected official or state employee, appointed by the Lieutenant
22 Governor; and

23 (g) A member of the general public who is not an
24 elected official or state employee, appointed by the Speaker of
25 the House of Representatives.

26 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
27 the effective date of this act, and, within fifteen (15) days
28 thereafter on a day to be designated jointly by the Speaker of the
29 House and the Lieutenant Governor, the task force shall meet and
30 organize by selecting from its membership a chairman and a vice
31 chairman. The vice chairman shall also serve as secretary and
32 shall be responsible for keeping all records of the task force. A
33 majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a
34 quorum. In the selection of its officers and the adoption of
35 rules, resolutions and reports, an affirmative vote of a majority
36 of the task force shall be required. All members shall be
37 notified in writing of all meetings, such notices to be mailed at
38 least fifteen (15) days before the date on which a meeting is to
39 be held.

40 (4) The task force shall study voting systems that comply
41 with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and make recommendations
42 regarding the types of voting systems that are suitable for use in
43 Mississippi.

44 (5) Members of the task force who are not legislators, state
45 officials or state employees shall be compensated at the per diem
46 rate authorized by Section 25-3-69 and shall be reimbursed in
47 accordance with Section 25-3-41 for mileage and actual expenses
48 incurred in the performance of their duties. Legislative members
49 of the task force shall be paid from the contingent expense funds
50 of their respective houses in the same manner as provided for
51 committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session.
52 However, no per diem or expense for attending meetings of the task
53 force will be paid to legislative members of the task force while
54 the Legislature is in session. No task force member may incur per

55 diem, travel or other expenses unless previously authorized by
56 vote, at a meeting of the task force, which action shall be
57 recorded in the official minutes of the meeting. Nonlegislative
58 members shall be paid from any funds made available to the task
59 force for that purpose.

60 (6) The task force shall use clerical and legal staff
61 already employed by the Legislature and any other staff assistance
62 made available to it. To effectuate the purposes of this section,
63 any department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of
64 the state or of any political subdivision thereof shall, at the
65 request of the chairman of the task force, provide to the task
66 force such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the task
67 force to properly carry out its task.

68 (7) Upon presentation of its report to the Legislature at
69 the 2005 Regular Session, the task force shall be dissolved.

70 **FURTHER, AMEND line 60 of the title by inserting the**
71 **following after the semicolon:**

72 TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY VOTING SYSTEMS THAT COMPLY WITH
73 THE HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002 AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
74 LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE TYPES OF VOTING SYSTEMS THAT ARE
75 SUITABLE FOR USE IN MISSISSIPPI;