

By: Representatives Blackmon, Warren,
Rotenberry

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1192
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CONFORM TO THE 2000 CENSUS; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-1, 9-5-7,
3 9-5-11, 9-5-13, 9-5-17, 9-5-22, 9-5-31, 9-5-36, 9-5-37, 9-5-40,
4 9-5-43, 9-5-51, 9-5-54 AND 9-5-58, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
5 REDISTRIBUTE CERTAIN CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS; TO REVISE CERTAIN
6 CHANCELLORSHIPS; TO PROVIDE NEW CHANCELLORS IN CERTAIN CHANCERY
7 COURT DISTRICTS; TO CREATE SUBDISTRICTS IN CERTAIN CHANCERY COURT
8 DISTRICTS; TO CODIFY SECTION 9-5-42, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
9 PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL CHANCELLOR FOR THE THIRTEENTH CHANCERY COURT
10 DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
11 CONFORM TO THE 2000 CENSUS; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-7-1, 9-7-7,
12 9-7-14, 9-7-15, 9-7-20, 9-7-21, 9-7-23, 9-7-25, 9-7-29, 9-7-32,
13 9-7-33, 9-7-42, 9-7-44, 9-7-46, 9-7-53 AND 9-7-54, MISSISSIPPI
14 CODE OF 1972, TO REDISTRIBUTE CERTAIN CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO
15 CREATE SUBDISTRICTS IN CERTAIN CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO REVISE
16 CERTAIN JUDGESHIPS; TO PROVIDE NEW JUDGES IN CERTAIN CIRCUIT COURT
17 DISTRICTS; TO CREATE SECTION 9-7-59 AND 9-7-60, MISSISSIPPI CODE
18 OF 1972, TO CREATE THE TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO
19 AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-982 AND 23-15-983, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
20 IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

22 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-5-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
23 amended as follows:

24 9-5-1. A chancellor shall be elected for and from each of
25 the chancery court districts as provided in this chapter and the
26 listing of individual precincts shall be those precincts as they
27 existed on October 1, 2000. He shall hold court in any other
28 district with the consent of the chancellor thereof when in their
29 opinion the public interest may be thereby promoted. The terms of
30 all chancellors elected at the regular election for the year 1930
31 shall begin on the first day of January, 1931, and their terms of
32 office shall continue for four (4) years. A chancellor shall be a
33 resident of the district in which he serves but shall not be
34 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is
35 divided into subdistricts.

36 **SECTION 2.** Section 9-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
37 amended as follows:

38 9-5-7. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
39 First Chancery Court District.

40 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the four (4)
41 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
42 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
43 Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The chancellor to fill
44 Place One shall be a resident of Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo
45 County. The chancellor to fill Place Two shall be a resident of
46 Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc or Union County. The chancellors
47 to fill Place Three and Place Four shall be residents of Alcorn,
48 Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tishomingo or Union
49 Counties. Election of the four (4) offices of chancellor shall be
50 by election to be held in every county within the First Chancery
51 Court District of Mississippi.

52 **SECTION 3.** Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
53 amended as follows:

54 9-5-11. *(1)* The Third Chancery Court District shall be
55 comprised of the following counties:

- 56 (a) DeSoto County;
- 57 (b) Grenada County;
- 58 (c) Montgomery County;
- 59 (d) Panola County;
- 60 (e) Tate County; and
- 61 (f) Yalobusha County.

62 *(2) The Third Chancery Court District shall be divided into*
63 *two (2) subdistricts as follows:*

64 *(a) Subdistrict 3-1 shall be comprised of Desoto County*
65 *and no chancellor shall be elected from said subdistrict; and*

66 *(b) Subdistrict 3-2 which shall be comprised of*
67 *Grenada * * *, Montgomery * * *, Panola * * *, Tate * * * and*
68 *Yalobusha * * * Counties from which subdistrict two (2) chancery*

69 judges shall be elected by post designation with no post being
70 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
71 "Place One" and one (1) post being denominated for purposes of
72 appointment and election only as "Place Two."

73 **SECTION 4.** Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
74 amended as follows:

75 9-5-13. * * * There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
76 Third Chancery Court District.

77 * * *

78 **SECTION 5.** Section 9-5-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
79 amended as follows:

80 9-5-17. (1) The Fifth Chancery Court District shall be
81 comprised of Hinds County.

82 (2) The Fifth Chancery Court District shall be divided into
83 the following four (4) subdistricts:

84 (a) Subdistrict 5-1 shall consist of the following
85 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 33, 34, 35, 36, 44, 45, 46,
86 78, 79, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 92, 93, 96, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9,
87 10, 32, 47 and 97.

88 (b) Subdistrict 5-2 shall consist of the following
89 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43,
90 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, * * * 27, * * *
91 29, 30 and 85, Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin
92 Precincts.

93 (c) Subdistrict 5-3 shall consist of the following
94 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 21, 22, 23, 25, 28, 31, 86,
95 58, 59, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 89, 24, 26, 54, 55, 56, 57, 60,
96 61, 62, 18, 19, 20, 50, 51, 52, 53, 63 and 64 and Jackson State
97 Precinct.

98 (d) Subdistrict 5-4 shall consist of the following
99 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 94, 95, 87, 88, 90 and 91,
100 Bolton, Edwards, Pine Haven, Utica 1, Utica 2, Byram 1, Byram 2,
101 Cayuga, Learned, Clinton 1, Clinton 2, Clinton 3, Clinton 4,

102 Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Raymond 1, Raymond 2, Spring Ridge, St.
103 Thomas, Old Byram, Terry, Chapel Hill and Dry Grove Precincts.

104 **SECTION 6.** Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
105 amended as follows:

106 9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
107 Sixth Chancery Court District.

108 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)
109 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
110 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
111 "Place Two."

112 **SECTION 7.** Section 9-5-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
113 amended as follows:

114 9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be
115 comprised of the following counties:

- 116 (a) Humphreys County;
- 117 (b) Issaquena County;
- 118 (c) Sharkey County;
- 119 (d) Sunflower County;
- 120 (e) Warren County; and
- 121 (f) Washington County.

122 (2) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be divided into
123 three (3) subdistricts as follows:

124 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of the following
125 precincts in the following counties:

- 126 (i) Sunflower County: Indianola 3 North,
127 Indianola 3 South, Ruleville, Boyer-Linn, Fairview-Hale, Rome,
128 Sunflower Plantation, Drew and Ruleville North Precincts; and
- 129 (ii) Washington County: Buster Brown Community
130 Center, Extension Building, Faith Lutheran Church, Brent Center,
131 William Percy Library, American Legion, Metcalf City Hall, Elks
132 Club, Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Light and Water
133 Plant and Greenville Industrial College Precincts.

134 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of Humphreys County
135 and the following precincts in the following counties:

136 (i) Sunflower County: Inverness, Indianola 1,
137 Moorhead, Indianola 2 West, Indianola 2 East, Sunflower, Indianola
138 3 Northeast, Doddsville and Sunflower 4 Precincts; and

139 (ii) Washington County: St. James Episcopal
140 Church, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Glen Allan Health Clinic,
141 Italian Club, Ward's Recreation Center, Avon Health Center, Arcola
142 City Hall, Kapco Co., Hollandale City Hall, Darlove Baptist
143 Church, Mangelardi Bourbon Store and Grace Methodist Church
144 Precincts.

145 (c) Subdistrict 9-3 shall consist of Issaquena County,
146 Sharkey County and Warren County.

147 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
148 amended as follows:

149 9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
150 Tenth Chancery Court District.

151 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the four (4)
152 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
153 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
154 Two," * * * "Place Three" and "Place Four," respectively. The
155 chancellor to fill Place One shall be a resident of Forrest,
156 Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or Perry County. The chancellor to
157 fill Place Two shall be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River
158 or Perry County. The chancellor to fill Place Three shall be a
159 resident of Forrest County. The chancellor to fill Place Three
160 shall be a resident of Forrest, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or
161 Perry County. Election of the four (4) offices of chancellor
162 shall be by election to be held in every county within the Tenth
163 Chancery Court District of Mississippi.

164 **SECTION 9.** Section 9-5-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
165 amended as follows:

166 9-5-37. (1) The Eleventh Chancery Court District shall be
167 comprised of the following counties:

- 168 (a) Holmes County;
- 169 (b) Leake County;
- 170 (c) Madison County; and
- 171 (d) Yazoo County.

172 (2) The Eleventh Chancery Court District shall be divided
173 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

174 (a) Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of Holmes County,
175 Yazoo County and Canton Precinct 4, Canton Precinct 5, Smith
176 School, Magnolia Heights, Flora and Bible Church Precincts of
177 Madison County;

178 (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of Leake County and
179 Ratliff Ferry, Madisonville, Trace Harbor, Canton Precinct 1,
180 Canton Precinct 2, Canton Precinct 3, Canton Precinct 7, Cameron
181 Street, Main Harbor, Victory Baptist Church, Bear Creek, Madison
182 1, Madison 2, Madison 3, Ridgeland 1, Ridgeland 3, Ridgeland 4,
183 Ridgeland First Methodist Church, Gluckstadt, Lorman/Cavalier,
184 Tougaloo, Cobblestone Church of God, Highland Colony Baptist
185 Church, Whisper Lake, Virlilia, Liberty, New Industrial Park,
186 Madison County Baptist Family Life Center, Cameron, Couparle,
187 Camden, Sharon and Luther Branson School Precincts of Madison
188 County.

189 **SECTION 10.** Section 9-5-40, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
190 amended as follows:

191 9-5-40. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth
192 Chancery Court District.

193 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)
194 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
195 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
196 "Place Two."

197 **SECTION 11.** The following shall be codified as Section
198 9-5-42, Mississippi Code of 1972:

199 9-5-42. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
200 Thirteenth Chancery Court District.

201 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)
202 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
203 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
204 "Place Two."

205 **SECTION 12.** Section 9-5-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
206 amended as follows:

207 9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be
208 comprised of the following counties:

- 209 (a) Chickasaw County;
- 210 (b) Clay County;
- 211 (c) Lowndes County;
- 212 (d) Noxubee County;
- 213 (e) Oktibbeha County; and
- 214 (f) Webster County.

215 (2) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be divided
216 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

217 (a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County,
218 Webster County and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County:
219 West Starkville, Adaton, North Longview, Self Creek, Double
220 Springs, Northeast Starkville, East Starkville, North Starkville,
221 Maben, South Starkville, South Longview, Craig Springs, Bradley,
222 Center Grove and Sturgis Precincts.

223 (b) Subdistrict 14-2 shall consist of the following
224 precincts in the following counties:

225 (i) Clay County: Vinton, East West Point, Siloam,
226 Central West Point, South West Point and Cedar Bluff Precincts;
227 and

228 (ii) Lowndes County: Caledonia, Steens A, Steens
229 B, Caldwell, Stokes Beard B, Fairview, Sale, Rural Hill B, Lee
230 High, Brandon A, Brandon B, Franklin A, Franklin B, Air Base A,
231 Air Base B, Air Base C, Air Base D, Steens C, Rural Hill A, New

232 Hope A, Mitchell, New Hope B, Union Academy A and University A
233 Precincts.

234 (c) Subdistrict 14-3 shall consist of Noxubee County
235 and the following precincts in the following counties:

236 (i) Clay County: North West Point, Union Star,
237 Tibbee, Cairo, Caradine, Una, West Point, Pheba and Pine Bluff
238 Precincts;

239 (ii) Lowndes County: Co-op A, Co-op B, Trinity,
240 Coleman, Stokes Beard A, Fairgrounds A, Fairgrounds B, Fairgrounds
241 C, Coleman, Plum Grove A, Crawford A, Hunt C, Hunt B, Hunt A,
242 Union Academy B, University B, West Lowndes, Artesia, Mayhew,
243 Crawford B, Crawford C, New Hope C, Plum Grove B and Plum Grove C
244 Precincts; and

245 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Osborn, Hickory Grove,
246 Bell Schoolhouse, Central Starkville, Gillespie Street Center,
247 Sessums and Oktoc Precincts.

248 **SECTION 13.** Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
249 amended as follows:

250 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District shall
251 be comprised of the following counties:

- 252 (a) Adams County;
253 (b) Claiborne County;
254 (c) Jefferson County; and
255 (d) Wilkinson County.

256 (2) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District shall be divided
257 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

258 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall consist of Claiborne County,
259 Jefferson County, and the following precincts in Adams
260 County: * * * Palestine, Northside School, Thompson, Pine Ridge,
261 Airport * * * and Washington Precincts.

262 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Wilkinson County
263 and the following precincts in Adams County: Courthouse, By-Pass
264 Fire Station, Cloverdale, Bellemont, Carpenter * * *, Duncan Park,

265 Beau Pre, Kingston, Concord, Convention Center, Maryland Heights,
266 Liberty Park, Morgantown, Foster Mound and Oakland Precincts.

267 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth
268 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
269 each subdistrict.

270 **SECTION 14.** Section 9-5-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
271 amended as follows:

272 9-5-54. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
273 Eighteenth Chancery Court District.

274 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the two
275 (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated
276 for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
277 "Place Two."

278 **SECTION 15.** Section 9-5-58, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
279 amended as follows:

280 9-5-58. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
281 Twentieth Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment
282 and election the three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and
283 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
284 only as "Place One," * * * "Place Two" and "Place Three."

285 **SECTION 16.** Section 9-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
286 amended as follows:

287 9-7-1. A circuit judge shall be elected for and from each
288 circuit court district and the listing of individual precincts
289 shall be those precincts as they existed on October 1, 2000. He
290 may hold court in any other district with the consent of the judge
291 thereof, when in their opinion the public interest may require.
292 The terms of all circuit judges hereafter elected shall begin on
293 the first day of January 1931, and their terms of office shall
294 continue for four (4) years. A circuit judge shall be a resident
295 of the district in which he or she serves but shall not be
296 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is
297 divided into subdistricts.

298 **SECTION 17.** Section 9-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
299 amended as follows:

300 9-7-7. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the First
301 Circuit Court District.

302 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the four (4)
303 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
304 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
305 Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The judge to fill Place One
306 shall be a resident of Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The
307 judge to fill Place Two shall be a resident of Itawamba, Lee,
308 Monroe or Pontotoc County. The judges to fill Place Three and
309 Place Four shall be residents of Alcorn, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe,
310 Pontotoc, Prentiss or Tishomingo Counties. Election of the four
311 (4) offices of judge shall be by election to be held in every
312 county within the First Circuit Court District of Mississippi.

313 **SECTION 18.** Section 9-7-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
314 amended as follows:

315 9-7-14. (1) There shall be three (3) circuit judges for the
316 Third Circuit Court District.

317 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the three (3)
318 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
319 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
320 Two" and "Place Three." The judge for "Place Three" shall be a
321 resident of Benton, Marshall or Tippah County.

322 **SECTION 19.** Section 9-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
323 amended as follows:

324 9-7-15. (1) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be
325 composed of the following counties:

- 326 (a) Leflore County;
- 327 (b) Sunflower County; and
- 328 (c) Washington County.

329 (2) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
330 four (4) subdistricts as follows:

331 (a) Subdistrict 4-1 shall consist of the following
332 precincts in the following counties:

333 (i) Leflore County: Minter City, North Greenwood,
334 Money, Northeast Greenwood, Schlater, West Greenwood, Mississippi
335 Valley State University and Southeast Greenwood Precincts; and

336 (ii) Sunflower County: Ruleville, Rome, Sunflower
337 Plantation, Drew, Doddsville, Boyer-Linn, Fairview-Hale and
338 Ruleville North Precincts.

339 (b) Subdistrict 4-2 shall consist of the following
340 precincts in the following counties:

341 (i) Sunflower County: Indianola 1, Sunflower,
342 Indianola 3 North, Indianola 3 South, Indianola 3 Northeast and
343 Sunflower 4 Precincts; and

344 (ii) Washington County: Extension Building, Faith
345 Lutheran Church, American Legion, Metcalfe City Hall, Elks Club,
346 Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Light and Water Plant and
347 Greenville Industrial College Precincts.

348 (c) Subdistrict 4-3 shall consist of the following
349 precincts in the following counties:

350 (i) Leflore County: East Greenwood Sub-A, East
351 Greenwood Sub-B, Central Greenwood, North Itta Bena, South Itta
352 Bena, Southwest Greenwood, Rising Sun, Sidon, Morgan City,
353 Swiftown and South Greenwood Precincts;

354 (ii) Sunflower County: Moorhead, Inverness,
355 Indianola 2 West and Indianola 2 East Precincts; and

356 (iii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall,
357 Hollandale City Hall, Darlove Baptist Church and Mangelardi
358 Bourbon Store Precincts.

359 (d) Subdistrict 4-4 shall consist of the following
360 precincts in Washington County: St. James Episcopal Church,
361 Swiftwater Baptist Church, Glen Allan Health Clinic, Italian Club,
362 Ward's Recreation Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Avon

363 Health Center, Kapco Company, Brent Center, William Percy Library
364 and Grace Methodist Church Precincts.

365 (3) The local contributions required for the maintenance of
366 the Fourth Circuit Court District shall be paid on a pro rata
367 basis each by Leflore, Sunflower and Washington Counties.

368 **SECTION 20.** Section 9-7-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
369 amended as follows:

370 9-7-20. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifth
371 Circuit Court District.

372 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)
373 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
374 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
375 "Place Two."

376 **SECTION 21.** Section 9-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
377 amended as follows:

378 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District shall be
379 comprised of the following counties:

- 380 (a) Adams County;
381 (b) Amite County;
382 (c) Franklin County; and
383 (d) Wilkinson County.

384 (2) The Sixth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
385 two (2) subdistricts as follows:

386 (a) Subdistrict 6-1 shall consist of Wilkinson County
387 and the following precincts in the following counties:

388 (i) Adams County: Courthouse, By-Pass Fire
389 Station, Cloverdale, Carpenter * * *, Concord, Maryland Heights,
390 Northside School, Thompson, Pine Ridge and Airport * * *
391 Precincts; and

392 (ii) Amite County: Gloster, Ariel, Homochitto,
393 Crosby, East Centreville, Street and Berwick Precincts.

394 (b) Subdistrict 6-2 shall consist of Franklin County,
395 and the following precincts in the following counties:

396 (i) Amite County: East Gloster, Liberty, New
397 Zion, Zion Hill, Amite River, Oneil, East Fork, East Liberty,
398 Smithdale, Tangipahoa, Riceville, South Liberty, Tickfaw and Walls
399 Precincts.

400 (ii) Adams County: Bellemont, Duncan Park, Beau
401 Pre, Kingston, Convention Center, Liberty Park, Palestine,
402 Morgantown, Foster Mound, Oakland and Washington Precincts.

403 (3) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the Sixth
404 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
405 subdistrict.

406 **SECTION 22.** Section 9-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
407 amended as follows:

408 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be
409 comprised of Hinds County.

410 (2) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be divided into
411 five (5) subdistricts in Hinds County as follows:

412 (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of the following
413 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 42,
414 43, 44, 45, 46, 78, * * * 72, * * * 76, 77, * * * 93, 96, 1, 2, 4,
415 5, 6, 8, 9, * * * 32, 47 and 97.

416 (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of the following
417 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts * * * 39, 40, 41, 79, 80,
418 81, 82, 83, 84, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 and
419 85, Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin Precincts.

420 (c) Subdistrict 7-3 shall consist of the following
421 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 10, 22, * * * 31, * * * 58,
422 59, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 89, * * * 26, 54, 55, 56, 57, * * *
423 18, 19, 20, 50, 51, 52, 53, 63, 64 and 89 and Jackson State
424 Precinct.

425 (d) Subdistrict 7-4 shall consist of the following
426 precincts in Hinds County: * * * Bolton, Edwards, Pine Haven,
427 Utica 1, Utica 2, Byram 1, Byram 2, Cayuga, Learned, Clinton 1,
428 Clinton 2, Clinton 3, Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Raymond

429 1, * * * St. Thomas, Old Byram, Terry, Chapel Hill and Dry Grove
430 Precincts.

431 (e) Subdistrict 7-5 shall consist of the following
432 precincts in Hinds County: Precincts 21, 24, 25, 26, 60, 61, 62,
433 73, 74, 75, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 94 and 95 and Raymond 2 and
434 Spring Ridge Precincts.

435 **SECTION 23.** Section 9-7-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
436 amended as follows:

437 9-7-25. (1) There shall be five (5) circuit judges for the
438 Seventh Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected
439 from each subdistrict.

440 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
441 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them
442 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First
443 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior
444 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as
445 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes
446 of the court.

447 **SECTION 24.** Section 9-7-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
448 amended as follows:

449 9-7-29. (1) The Ninth Circuit Court District shall be
450 comprised of the following counties:

- 451 (a) Issaquena County;
- 452 (b) Sharkey County; and
- 453 (c) Warren County.

454 (2) The Ninth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
455 two (2) subdistricts as follows:

456 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of Issaquena County,
457 Sharkey County and the following precincts in Warren County: St.
458 Aloysius, Kings, Cedar Grove, 3-61 Store, Auditorium, Brunswick,
459 Vicksburg Junior High School and American Legion Precincts.

460 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of the following
461 precincts in Warren County: Oak Ridge, Bovina, Culkin, Redwood,

462 Number 7 Firestation, Jett, Elks Club, Goodrum Church, Yokena,
463 Plumbers Hall, Beechwood, Y.M.C.A., Moose Lodge and Tingleville
464 Precincts.

465 **SECTION 25.** Section 9-7-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
466 amended as follows:

467 9-7-32. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Tenth
468 Circuit Court District.

469 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)
470 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
471 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
472 "Place Two."

473 **SECTION 26.** Section 9-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
474 amended as follows:

475 9-7-33. (1) The Eleventh Circuit Court District shall be
476 comprised of the following counties:

- 477 (a) Bolivar County;
- 478 (b) Coahoma County;
- 479 (c) Quitman County; and
- 480 (d) Tunica County.

481 (2) The Eleventh Circuit Court District shall be divided
482 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

483 (a) Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of the following
484 precincts from the following counties:

485 (i) Bolivar County: Gunnison, West Rosedale, East
486 Rosedale, Pace, Beulah, Roundlake/Deeson, Benoit, Scott, Northwest
487 Cleveland, Cleveland Courthouse, West Central Cleveland, West
488 Cleveland, Longshot, South Cleveland, North Cleveland, Skene,
489 Shaw, Boyle, Choctaw and Stringtown Precincts; and

490 (ii) Coahoma County: Sherard, Clarksdale 2-4,
491 Rena Lara, * * * Bobo and Clarksdale 5-4 Precincts.

492 (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of the following
493 precincts from the following counties:

494 (i) Bolivar County: Pleasant Green,
495 Duncan/Alligator, Shelby, Mound Bayou, Winstonville, Merigold,
496 Renova, East Central Cleveland, Cleveland Eastgate, and East
497 Cleveland Precincts;

498 (ii) Coahoma County: Dublin, Clarksdale 3-3,
499 Clarksdale 3-4, Cagle Crossing, Clarksdale 4-2 and Roundway
500 Precincts; and

501 (iii) Quitman County: Southwest Marks, West
502 Lambert and Lambert * * * Precincts.

503 (c) Subdistricts 11-3 shall consist of Tunica County
504 and the following precincts in the following counties:

505 (i) Coahoma County: Lula, Farrell, Friars Point,
506 Lyon, Clarksdale 1-4, Clarksdale 4-3, * * * Coahoma and Jonestown
507 Precincts; and

508 (ii) Quitman County: Crenshaw, Sledge, * * *
509 Darling, Belen, Northwest Marks, Northeast Marks, East Marks-NE
510 Lambert and Crowder Precincts.

511 **SECTION 27.** (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District shall
512 be comprised of the following counties:

- 513 (a) Lincoln County;
514 (b) Pike County; and
515 (c) Walthall County.

516 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth Circuit
517 Court District. For the purpose of appointment and election, the
518 two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct.

519 **SECTION 28.** Section 9-7-42, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
520 amended as follows:

521 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
522 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.

523 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the three
524 (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
525 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
526 Two" and "Place Three."

527 **SECTION 29.** Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
528 amended as follows:

529 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
530 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.

531 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the three
532 (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominate for
533 purposes of appointment and election as "Place One," "Place Two,"
534 and "Place Three."

535 **SECTION 30.** Section 9-7-46, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
536 amended as follows:

537 9-7-46. (1) There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
538 Seventeenth Circuit Court District.

539 (2) For the purpose of appointment and election, the four
540 (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct, and two (2) judges
541 shall be elected from Subdistrict 17-1 and two (2) judges shall be
542 elected from Subdistrict 17-2. For purposes of appointment and
543 election, the two (2) judgeships in Subdistrict 17-1 shall be
544 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
545 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." For purposes of
546 appointment and election, the two (2) judgeships in Subdistrict
547 17-2 shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes
548 of election and appointment as "Place One" and "Place Two."

549 **SECTION 31.** Section 9-7-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
550 amended as follows:

551 9-7-53. The Twentieth Circuit Court District shall be * * *
552 Rankin County.

553 **SECTION 32.** Section 9-7-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
554 amended as follows:

555 9-7-54. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twentieth
556 Circuit Court District.

557 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the two
558 (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for

559 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
560 "Place Two."

561 **SECTION 33.** The following shall be codified as Section
562 9-7-59, Mississippi Code of 1972:

563 9-7-59. The Twenty-third Circuit Court District shall be
564 Madison County and shall be divided into two (2) subdistricts as
565 follows:

566 (a) (i) Subdistrict 23-1 shall consist of the
567 following precincts: Ratliff Ferry, Canton Precinct 2, Canton
568 Precinct 3, Canton Precinct 7, Smith School, Magnolia Heights,
569 Flora, Virililia, Canton Precinct 5, Liberty, New Industrial Park,
570 Madison County Baptist Family Life Center, Cameron, Couparle,
571 Camden, Sharon, Canton Precinct 1, Canton Precinct 4, Luther
572 Branson School and Bible Church Precincts.

573 (ii) Subdistrict 23-1 shall consist of the
574 following partial precincts: Madisonville and Bear Creek
575 Precincts. The Split Precinct Block List developed in conjunction
576 with Chapter 761, Laws of 2002, that details portions of partial
577 or split precincts that are contained within a subdistrict by
578 census tract and block number and was utilized in developing the
579 partial or split precincts of this subdistrict is hereby
580 incorporated and shall be construed to be an integral part of this
581 section.

582 (b) (i) Subdistrict 23-2 shall consist of the
583 following precincts: Trace Harbor, Main Harbor, Victory Baptist
584 Church, Madison 1, Madison 2, Madison 3, Ridgeland 3, Ridgeland 4,
585 Ridgeland First Methodist Church, Gluckstadt, Lorman-Cavalier,
586 Ridgeland 1, Tougaloo, Cobblestone Church of God, Highland Colony
587 Baptist Church and Whisper Lake Precincts.

588 (ii) Subdistrict 23-2 shall consist of that
589 portion of the following partial precincts not included in
590 Subdistrict 23-1: Madisonville and Bear Creek Precincts.

591 **SECTION 34.** The following shall be codified as Section
592 9-7-60, Mississippi Code of 1972:

593 9-7-60. There shall be two (2) judges for the Twenty-third
594 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
595 subdistrict.

596 **SECTION 35.** Section 23-15-982, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
597 amended as follows:

598 23-15-982. (1) Majority of vote equals any excess of the
599 total vote for all candidates divided by the number of judgeships
600 to be filled divided by two (2).

601 If some or all candidates in a multijudge election do not
602 receive a majority of the vote, then candidates equal in number to
603 twice the number of remaining positions to be filled and having
604 the highest votes shall run in a runoff election. In such event,
605 if there is not a sufficient number of remaining candidates equal
606 to twice the number of remaining positions to be filled, then all
607 remaining candidates shall run in the runoff election.

608 (2) Any tie votes which require resolution to determine who
609 shall enter a runoff election shall be determined by the
610 commissioners of election in the manner prescribed by Sections
611 23-15-601 and 23-15-605.

612 Candidates equal to the remaining number of positions to be
613 filled who have the highest votes in the runoff election are
614 elected.

615 Any tie votes which must be determined in order to decide who
616 is elected as a result of a runoff election shall be determined by
617 the State Election Commission in the manner prescribed by Sections
618 23-15-601 and 23-15-605.

619 (3) The provisions of this section shall apply only to
620 districts and subdistricts which are multijudge districts except
621 for the chancery court districts with chancellorships designated
622 as places and the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Eighth, Tenth,

623 Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Subdistrict 17-2 of the Seventeenth,
624 Nineteenth and Twentieth Circuit Court Districts.

625 **SECTION 36.** Section 23-15-983, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
626 amended as follows:

627 23-15-983. At the general election, the candidates equal to
628 the number of positions to be filled and having the highest votes
629 shall be elected.

630 Any tie votes in the general election which must be resolved
631 in order to determine who is elected shall be resolved in the
632 manner prescribed by Sections 23-15-601 and 23-15-605.

633 The provisions of this section shall apply only to districts
634 and subdistricts which are multijudge districts except for the
635 chancery court districts with chancellorships designated as places
636 and the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Eighth, Tenth, Fifteenth,
637 Sixteenth, Subdistrict 17-2 of the Seventeenth, Nineteenth and
638 Twentieth Circuit Court Districts.

639 **SECTION 37.** No new judgeships or chancellorships created by
640 this act shall be filled until the judicial elections are
641 conducted in 2006. Any district attorneys for circuit court
642 districts created by this act whose term of office begins on
643 January 1, 2007, shall be elected at a special election to be held
644 at the same time as the judicial elections in 2006. Thereafter,
645 such district attorneys shall be elected at the time and in the
646 manner provided by law for electing district attorneys.

647 **SECTION 38.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
648 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
649 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
650 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
651 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
652 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
653 extended.

654 **SECTION 39.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
655 and after January 1, 2006, provided that it is effectuated under

656 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
657 extended.