

**Lost
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

House Bill No. 318

BY: Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-369, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:
9 23-15-369. (1) (a) Whenever a constitutional amendment is
10 submitted to the vote of the people, the substance of such
11 amendment shall be printed in clear and unambiguous language on
12 the ballot after the list of candidates, if any, followed by the
13 words "FOR THE AMENDMENT" and also by the words "AGAINST THE
14 AMENDMENT", and shall be styled in such a manner that a * * * vote
15 "FOR THE AMENDMENT" will indicate approval of the proposal and
16 a * * * vote "AGAINST THE AMENDMENT" will indicate rejection.
17 (b) The substance of the amendment shall be an
18 explanatory statement not exceeding one hundred (100) words in
19 length of the chief purpose of the measure. Such statement shall
20 be prepared by the Legislature and included in the concurrent
21 resolution proposing the amendment to the Constitution. The
22 statement shall avoid, whenever possible, the use of legal
23 terminology or jargon and shall use instead, simple, ordinary,
24 everyday language. The Secretary of State shall give each
25 proposed constitutional amendment a designating number for

26 convenient reference. This number designation shall appear on the
27 ballot. Designating numbers shall be assigned in the order of
28 filing or certification of the amendments. The Secretary of State
29 shall furnish the designating number and the substance of each
30 amendment to the circuit clerk of each county in which such
31 amendment is to be voted on.

32 (c) The full text of each proposed constitutional
33 amendment shall be published by the Secretary of State as provided
34 for in Section 7-3-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, and shall be
35 posted prominently in all polling places, with copies of the
36 proposed amendment to be * * * available at each polling place.

37 (2) Except as may be otherwise provided in subsection (1) of
38 this section, whenever any public measure, question or matter that
39 requires an affirmative or negative vote is submitted to a vote of
40 the electors, the measure or matter shall be printed on the ballot
41 and also the words "FOR" or "AGAINST" to be so arranged by the
42 proper officer so that the voter can intelligently vote his
43 preference.

44 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
45 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
46 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
47 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
48 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
49 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
50 extended.

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

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-369, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE FORM OF THE BALLOT ON PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
3 AMENDMENTS; TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF WORDS THAT MAY

4 APPEAR ON THE BALLOT AS AN EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE CHIEF
5 PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.