

By: Representative Reynolds

To: Apportionment and Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 221

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ANY COUNTY  
2 MAY PETITION A CIRCUIT COURT IN HINDS COUNTY TO REQUEST THAT SUCH  
3 PETITIONING COUNTY'S ELECTIONS BE DELAYED AND RESCHEDULED, AND  
4 ALTERNATE VOTING LOCATIONS AND SYSTEMS BE SPECIFIED WITHIN A  
5 CERTAIN TIME FROM THE ORIGINAL DATE OF AN ELECTION DURING  
6 EMERGENCIES THAT AFFECT THE ELECTORAL PROCESS; AND FOR RELATED  
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** The board of supervisors of any county may  
10 petition a circuit court in Hinds County to request that such  
11 petitioning county's elections be delayed and rescheduled, or  
12 alternate voting locations and systems be specified by such Hinds  
13 County Circuit Court within ninety (90) days from the original  
14 date of an election, if the following conditions occur:

15 (a) The Governor proclaims a state of emergency in the  
16 petitioning county and the state of emergency interferes with the  
17 electoral process in such a manner that prohibits electors from  
18 voting; or

19 (b) If emergency circumstances, not constituting a  
20 declared state of emergency, interfere with the electoral process.

21 The Hinds County Circuit Judge that reschedules the elections  
22 or determines alternate voting locations and systems shall direct  
23 the rescheduling of the election until a specific date provided  
24 that the same date must be set for the entirety of any district in  
25 which an election is being rescheduled or alternate voting  
26 locations and systems are determined.

27 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
28 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
29 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the

30 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
31 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
32 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
33 extended.

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