

By: Representative Warren

To: Apportionment and
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 639

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-137, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXTEND THE DATE OF REPEAL FOR THE PROVISION OF LAW THAT
3 AUTHORIZES THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF A MUNICIPALITY TO CONTRACT
4 TO REVISE REGISTRATION BOOKS AND POLLBOOKS; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-137, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 23-15-137. (1) If the governing authorities of a
10 municipality determine that revision of the registration books and
11 pollbooks can be performed more effectively and efficiently
12 utilizing the authority granted in this section, then such
13 governing authorities may contract with the commissioners of
14 election of the county or counties in which the municipality is
15 located to provide the municipal registrar of such municipality
16 with registration books and pollbooks containing only the duly
17 qualified electors of such municipality. The registration books
18 and pollbooks provided pursuant to this section may be used to
19 conduct any municipal election in such municipality. By adopting
20 the registration books and pollbooks so provided, the municipal
21 commissioners of election shall be deemed to have met any
22 requirements to revise such books which are imposed upon such
23 commissioners by Mississippi law.

24 (2) In addition to any meeting otherwise authorized by law,
25 the county commissioners of election may meet to prepare the
26 registration and pollbooks of each municipality pursuant to a
27 contract authorized pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.
28 Each municipality shall compensate the county commissioners of

29 election for the actual cost of preparing such registration books
30 and pollbooks for the municipality and shall pay each county
31 commissioner of election the per diem provided for in Section
32 23-15-153(2) for each day or period of not less than five (5)
33 hours accumulated over two (2) or more days such commissioners are
34 actually employed in preparing such registration books and
35 pollbooks for such municipality, not to exceed five (5) days. The
36 county commissioners of election shall not receive any
37 compensation for the preparation of registration books and
38 pollbooks pursuant to subsection (1) other than that provided for
39 in this subsection.

40 (3) This section shall stand repealed from and after January
41 1, 2008.

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

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