

By: Representative Robinson (63rd)

To: Apportionment and Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 519

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AN ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM CHANGING HIS OR
2 HER POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION DURING THE OFFICIAL'S TERM OF
3 OFFICE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** No elected official may change his or her
6 political party affiliation during the official's term of office.

7 A "change in political party affiliation" occurs when:

8 (a) Any elected official publicly declares that he or
9 she is leaving the political party with which he or she was
10 affiliated when he or she was elected to office;

11 (b) Any elected official publicly declares that he or
12 she is becoming a member of a political party which is different
13 from the political party with which he or she was affiliated at
14 the time of election.

15 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
16 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
17 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
18 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
19 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
20 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
21 extended.

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