

By: Representative McLeod

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1267

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-5-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
 2 PROVIDE FOR THE MODIFIED PROCESS OF ELECTING AND APPOINTING OF
 3 COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS FOR GEORGE COUNTY AT THE 2019
 4 STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION; TO PROVIDE THAT THREE MEMBERS OF THE
 5 BOARD SHALL BE ELECTED FROM THREE NEW SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS
 6 APPORTIONED IN ACCORDANCE TO THE POPULATION OF THE COUNTY; TO
 7 REQUIRE THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE LOCAL GOVERNING
 8 AUTHORITIES OF MUNICIPALITIES WHEREIN THE SEATS OF GOVERNMENT IS
 9 LOCATED TO APPOINT THE REMAINING TWO MEMBERS FROM THE COUNTY AT
 10 LARGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 13 amended as follows:

14 37-5-7. (1) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
 15 May, 1954, an election shall be held in each county in this state
 16 in the same manner as general state and county elections are held
 17 and conducted, which election shall be held for the purpose of
 18 electing the county boards of education established under the
 19 provisions of this chapter. At such election, the members of the
 20 said board from Supervisors Districts * * * 1 and * * * 2 shall be
 21 elected for the term expiring on the first Monday of January,
 22 1957; members of the board from Supervisors Districts * * * 3



23 and * * * 4 shall be elected for a term expiring on the first
24 Monday of January, 1959; and the member of the board from
25 Supervisors District * * * 5 shall be elected for a term expiring
26 on the first Monday of January, 1955. Except as otherwise
27 provided in subsection (2), all subsequent members of the board
28 shall be elected for a term of six (6) years at the regular
29 general election held on the first Monday in November next
30 preceding the expiration of the term of office of the respective
31 member or members of such board. All members of the county board
32 of education as herein constituted, shall take office on the first
33 Monday of January following the date of their election.

34 (2) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November,
35 in any year in which any county shall elect to utilize the
36 authority contained in Section 37-5-1(2), an election shall be
37 held in each such county in this state for the purpose of electing
38 the county boards of education in such counties. At said election
39 the members of the said county board of education from
40 Districts * * * 1 and * * * 2 shall be elected for a term of four
41 (4) years, the members from Districts * * * 3 and * * * 4 shall be
42 elected for a term of six (6) years, and the member from
43 District * * * 5 shall be elected for a term of two (2) years.
44 Thereafter, members shall be elected at general elections as
45 vacancies occur for terms of six (6) years each. All members of
46 the county board of education shall take office on the first
47 Monday of January following the date of their election.



48 (3) (a) Current members of the Board of Trustees of the
49 Greenwood Public School District serving on November 1, 2017,
50 shall continue in office as the new County Board of Education of
51 the Greenwood-Leflore School District until their successors are
52 elected as follows:

53 (i) The two (2) appointed board members of the
54 Greenwood Public School District whose terms are nearest to
55 expiration shall expire on January 1, 2019, and thereafter become
56 permanently elected positions to be filled by persons elected as
57 board members from Supervisors Districts 2 and 3 in a November
58 2018 election held for that purpose, in the manner prescribed in
59 Section 37-7-203, and the newly elected members will take office
60 on January 1, 2019, for a term of four (4) years;

61 (ii) The final two (2) appointed board members of
62 the Greenwood Public School District whose terms are the farthest
63 removed from expiration shall expire on January 1, 2020, and
64 thereafter become permanently elected positions to be filled by
65 persons elected as board members from Supervisors Districts 4 and
66 5 in a November 2019 election held for that purpose, in the manner
67 prescribed in Section 37-7-203, and the newly elected members will
68 take office on January 1, 2020, for a term of four (4) years; and

69 (iii) One (1) appointed board member of the
70 Greenwood Public School District whose term is next nearest to
71 expiration shall expire on January 1, 2021, and thereafter become
72 a permanently elected position to be filled by a person elected as



73 a board member from Supervisors District 1 in a November 2020
74 election held for that purpose, in the manner prescribed in
75 Section 37-7-203, and the newly elected members will take office
76 on January 1, 2021, for a term of four (4) years.

77 (b) All subsequent members shall be elected for a term
78 of four (4) years at the regular general election held on the
79 first Monday in November next preceding the expiration of the term
80 of office of the respective members, and shall take office on
81 January 1 next succeeding the election.

82 (4) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
83 2017, an election shall be held in Holmes County for the purpose
84 of electing the county board of education in the new Holmes County
85 Consolidated School District. At the election, the members of the
86 said county board of education shall be elected from single member
87 board of education districts, which shall be consistent with the
88 supervisors district lines in the county, and shall be elected for
89 an initial term of six (6) years. Subsequent elections for the
90 Holmes County Board of Education shall be held on the first
91 Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2023 and every four (4)
92 years thereafter at the same time and manner as other general
93 elections are held, and the member shall be elected for a term of
94 four (4) years. All members of the county board of education in
95 the new Holmes County Consolidated School District shall take
96 office on the first Monday of January following the date of their
97 election.



98 (5) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
99 2023, an election shall be held in Chickasaw County for the
100 purpose of electing the county board of education in the new
101 Chickasaw County School District. The board of supervisors shall
102 declare and designate posts for each member of the new board. At
103 said election, the members of the said county board of education
104 from Posts One and Two shall be elected for a term of four (4)
105 years, the members from Posts Three and Four shall be elected for
106 a term of three (3) years and the member from Post Five shall be
107 elected for a term of two (2) years. Thereafter, members shall be
108 elected at general elections as vacancies occur for terms of four
109 (4) years each. All members of the county board of education in
110 the new Chickasaw County School District shall take office on the
111 first Monday of January following the date of their election.

112 (6) (a) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
113 November 2019, and every four (4) years thereafter, an election
114 shall be held at the same time and manner as other statewide
115 general elections are held in George County for the purpose of
116 electing members of the county board of education in the George
117 County School District. The board of supervisors for the county
118 designated in this subsection shall be responsible for
119 apportioning the county into three (3) single member board of
120 education election districts, which shall be consistent with the
121 apportioned population of the county. The board of supervisors of
122 the county shall thereafter publish the same in some newspaper of



123 general circulation in the county for at least three (3)
124 consecutive weeks and having given notice of publication and
125 recording the same upon the minutes of the school board, the new
126 election district lines will thereafter be effective for the
127 November 2019 general election.

128 (b) After the election results for the office of school
129 board members have been certified by the Secretary of State, the
130 remaining two (2) members of the county school board shall be
131 appointed from the county at large as follows:

132 (i) One (1) member shall be appointed from the
133 county at large by the board of supervisors; and

134 (ii) One (1) member shall be appointed from the
135 county at large by the local governing authority of the
136 municipality wherein the seat of government is located subject to
137 the provisions of this subsection.

138 (c) School board members elected at the general
139 election and those appointed by the appropriate governing
140 authorities upon the certification of election results shall be
141 elected and appointed for a term of four (4) years, and shall take
142 office on the first Monday of January following the date of their
143 election or appointment.

144 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
145 and after July 1, 2018.

