

By: Representative McLeod

To: Education

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1391

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  
16 state in the same manner as general state and county elections are  
17 held and conducted, which election shall be held for the purpose  
18 of 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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
and after its passage.

