

By: Representatives Ladner, Williamson

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

HOUSE BILL NO. 33

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-805, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCE STATEMENTS, REPORTS OF
3 CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES, AND OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED TO BE
4 FILED SHALL BE POSTED ONLINE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE WITHIN ONE
5 DAY OF RECEIPT OF SUCH REPORTS FROM THE CANDIDATE, CIRCUIT CLERK
6 OR MUNICIPAL CLERK; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-815, MISSISSIPPI CODE
7 OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-805, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 23-15-805. (a) Candidates for state, state district, and
12 legislative district offices, and every political committee, which
13 makes reportable contributions to or expenditures in support of or
14 in opposition to a candidate for any such office or makes
15 reportable contributions to or expenditures in support of or in
16 opposition to a statewide ballot measure, shall file all reports
17 required under this article with the Office of the Secretary of
18 State.

19 (b) Candidates for county or county district office, and
20 every political committee which makes reportable contributions to



21 or expenditures in support of or in opposition to a candidate for
22 such office or makes reportable contributions to or expenditures
23 in support of or in opposition to a countywide ballot measure or a
24 ballot measure affecting part of a county, excepting a municipal
25 ballot measure, shall file all reports required by this section in
26 the office of the circuit clerk of the county in which the
27 election occurs, or directly to the Office of the Secretary of
28 State via facsimile, electronic mail, postal mail or hand
29 delivery. The circuit clerk shall forward copies of all reports
30 to the Office of the Secretary of State within one (1) day of
31 receipt of such reports.

32 (c) Candidates for municipal office, and every political
33 committee which makes reportable contributions to or expenditures
34 in support of or in opposition to a candidate for such office, or
35 makes reportable contributions to or expenditures in support of or
36 in opposition to a municipal ballot measure shall file all reports
37 required by this article in the office of the municipal clerk of
38 the municipality in which the election occurs, or directly to the
39 Office of the Secretary of State via facsimile, electronic mail,
40 postal mail or hand delivery. The municipal clerk shall forward
41 copies of all reports to the Office of the Secretary of State
42 within one (1) day of receipt of such reports.

43 (d) (i) The Secretary of State, the circuit clerks and the
44 municipal clerks shall make all reports received under this



45 subsection available for public inspection and copying and shall
46 preserve the reports for a period of five (5) years.

47 (ii) Beginning with the 2023 election cycle, all
48 statements, reports of contributions and expenditures, and other
49 reports required to be filed pursuant to this article, shall be
50 posted online by the Secretary of State within one (1) day of
51 receipt of such reports from the candidate, circuit clerk or
52 municipal clerk. The Secretary of State shall implement and
53 maintain an electronic database accessible by the public through
54 the Secretary of State's website that provides the capability of
55 search and retrieval of all statements, reports of contributions
56 and expenditures and other reports required to be filed pursuant
57 to this article.

58 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-815, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
59 amended as follows:

60 23-15-815. (a) The Secretary of State shall prescribe and
61 make available forms and promulgate rules and regulations
62 necessary to implement this article.

63 (b) The Secretary of State, circuit clerks and municipal
64 clerks shall, within forty-eight (48) hours after the time of the
65 receipt by the appropriate office of reports and statements filed
66 with it, make them available for public inspection, and copying at
67 the expense of the person requesting such copying, make them
68 available online as provided in Section 23-15-805 and keep such



69 designations, reports and statements for a period of * * * five
70 (5) years from the date of receipt.

71 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
72 and after July 1, 2022.

