

By: Representatives Johnson, Hines, Anderson To: Rules  
 (110th), Anthony, Bailey, Banks, Bell (65th),  
 Blackmon, Brown (70th), Burnett, Clark,  
 Clarke, Cockerham, Crudup, Denton, Faulkner,  
 Foster, Gibbs (36th), Gibbs (72nd), Harness,  
 Holloway, Jackson, Karriem, McCray, Mickens, Osborne, Porter, Reynolds,  
 Rosebud, Sanders, Scott, Stamps, Straughter, Summers, Taylor, Thompson,  
 Walker, Watson, Williams-Barnes, Young

## HOUSE BILL NO. 556

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-1037, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
 2 TO REAPPORTION THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR  
 3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-1037, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-1037. (1) The State of Mississippi is hereby divided  
 8 into \* \* \* four (4) congressional districts below:

9 **FIRST DISTRICT.** - The First Congressional District shall be  
 10 composed of the following counties and portions of counties:

11 Alcorn, Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, DeSoto,  
 12 Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Lowndes, Marshall, Monroe, Pontotoc,  
 13 Prentiss, Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union, Webster \* \* \*; \* \* \*  
 14 in Winston County, the precincts of County Agent, \*Shiloh and  
 15 Zion Ridge.

16 **SECOND DISTRICT.** - The Second Congressional District shall  
 17 be composed of the following counties and portions of counties:



18 Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Claiborne, Coahoma, Copiah,  
19 Grenada, Hinds, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Leake,  
20 Leflore, Montgomery, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower,  
21 Tallahatchie, Tunica, Warren, Washington, Yalobusha, Yazoo; \* \* \*  
22 in Madison County the precincts of \* \* \* Anderson Lodge, Camden,  
23 Cameron, Canton Bible Church, Canton Catholic Parish Center,  
24 Canton Community Center, Canton Fire Station #4, Canton National  
25 Guard Armory, Canton South Liberty, Canton St. Paul Methodist,  
26 Cedar Grove, Colonial Heights, Couparle, Farmhaven Fire Station,  
27 Fellowship Bible Church, Ferns Chapel Freewill, Franklin Baptist  
28 Church, \*Grace Crossing, Greater Mt. Levi Church, Highland Colony  
29 Baptist Church, Madison County Baptist Family Life Center,  
30 Magnolia Heights, Mark Apartments, Mount Hope, Pleasant Gift  
31 Church, Pleasant Green, Ridgeland First Methodist Church,  
32 Ridgeland Recreational Center, Tougaloo and Trace Ridge \* \* \*.

33 **THIRD DISTRICT.** - The Third Congressional District shall be  
34 composed of the following counties and portions of counties:

35 Adams, Amite, Clarke, Covington, Franklin, \* \* \* Jasper,  
36 Jefferson Davis, Kemper, Lauderdale, \* \* \* Lawrence, Lincoln,  
37 Marion, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Pike, Rankin, Scott,  
38 Simpson, Smith, Walthall, Wilkinson \* \* \*; \* \* \* in Jones County  
39 the precincts of \* \* \* \*Blackwell, Gitano, Hebron, Matthews,  
40 Mauldin Community Center, Shady Grove \* \* \* and Soso; \* \* \* in  
41 Madison County, the precincts of First Presbyterian, China Grove,  
42 First Baptist, Gluckstadt, \*Grace Crossing, Lake Caroline



43 Clubhouse, New Life, NorthBay, Parkway Church, SunnyBrook, Twin  
44 Lakes Baptist, Vertical Church, Victory Baptist Church and Victory  
45 Christian; in Winston County, the precincts of American Legion,  
46 East Winston, Fairground, Lovorn Tractor, Mars Hill, Mill Creek,  
47 Nanah Waiya, New National Guard Armory, Noxapater and \*Shiloh.

48 **FOURTH DISTRICT.** - The Fourth Congressional District shall  
49 be composed of the following counties and portions of counties:

50 \* \* \* Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson,  
51 Lamar, Pearl River, Perry, Stone, Wayne; in Jones County, the  
52 precincts of Antioch, \*Blackwell, Bruce, Calhoun, Centerville,  
53 County Barn, Currie, Erata, G.V. Harrison Multipurpose Building,  
54 Glade School, Johnson, Landrum Community Center, Lt. Ellis Center,  
55 Magnolia Center, Moselle, Myrick, North Laurel, Oak Park School,  
56 Ovett, Parkview Baptist Church, Pinegrove, Pleasant Ridge, Powers  
57 Community Center, Rainey, Rustin, Sandersville Civic Center,  
58 Sandhill, Sharon, Shelton, Tuckers, Union and West Ellisville.

59 \* \* \*

60 (2) The boundaries of the congressional districts described  
61 in subsection (1) of this section shall be the boundaries of the  
62 counties \* \* \* along such congressional district boundaries as the  
63 boundaries of such counties existed on January 1, 2022, and the  
64 precinct boundaries along such congressional district boundaries  
65 as such precinct boundaries are contained in Census Bureau's  
66 Public Law 94-171 geographic support products provided for use  
67 with the September 16th data deliveries officially called the



68 "2020 Census State Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary  
69 Files."

70 **SECTION 2.** Partial or split precincts contained in Section 1  
71 are identified in Section 1 of this act by an asterisk (\*) which  
72 shall precede its designation within the description of a  
73 district. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Joint  
74 Congressional Redistricting Committee shall file with the  
75 Secretary of State the Split Precinct Block List developed in  
76 conjunction with the plan contained in this House Bill No. 556,  
77 2022 Regular Session that details the portions of the partial or  
78 split precincts that are contained within a district by census  
79 block number, and such document duly filed with the Secretary of  
80 State is hereby incorporated into and shall be construed to be an  
81 integral part of this House Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular Session.

82 **SECTION 3.** (1) This act shall be liberally construed to  
83 effectuate the purposes thereof and to redistrict the  
84 Congressional Districts of this state in compliance with  
85 constitutional requirements. It is the intent of the Legislature  
86 that this act, and the districts described herein, completely  
87 encompass all the area within the state. It is also intended that  
88 such districts contain all the inhabitants in this state. It is  
89 further intended that the redistricting provided for in this House  
90 Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular Session results in the creation of  
91 districts which are as close to equal in population as  
92 practicable. It is also intended that no district shall include



93 any of the area included within the description of any other  
94 district.

95 (2) If the districts described in Section 1 of this act do  
96 not carry out the purposes thereof, because of unintentional  
97 omissions; duplications; overlapping areas; erroneous  
98 nomenclature; lack of adequate maps or descriptions of political  
99 subdivisions, wards or other divisions thereof, or of their  
100 boundary lines, then the Secretary of State, at the request of the  
101 Chair or Vice Chair of the Standing Joint Congressional  
102 Redistricting Committee shall, by order, correct such omissions,  
103 overlaps, erroneous nomenclature or other defects in the  
104 description of districts so as to accomplish the purposes and  
105 objectives of this House Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular Session.

106 (3) In promulgating such orders, the Secretary of State, in  
107 addition to achieving equality in the population of districts and  
108 ensuring that all areas of the state are completely and accurately  
109 encompassed in such districts, shall be guided by the following  
110 standards:

111 (a) In any instance in which there is a conflict  
112 between the description of a district as set out in this House  
113 Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular Session and the map of the  
114 Congressional Districts developed by the Standing Joint  
115 Congressional Redistricting Committee in conjunction with the  
116 adopted redistricting plan, the map shall control; however, in  
117 instances in which the map is inconclusive, the criteria set out



118 in paragraphs (b) through (f) of this subsection shall control any  
119 dispute or issue regarding the composition of any Congressional  
120 District;

121 (b) Gaps in the description of any district shall be  
122 completed in a manner which results in a total description of that  
123 district in a manner which is consonant with the description of  
124 adjacent districts and results in complete contiguity of  
125 districts;

126 (c) Areas of the state included within the descriptions  
127 of more than one (1) district shall be allocated to the district  
128 having the lowest population;

129 (d) Areas of the state not included within the  
130 descriptions of any district shall be allocated to the adjacent  
131 district having the lowest population;

132 (e) In the event that the area subject to corrected  
133 description or allocation as provided in paragraphs (b), (c) and  
134 (d) of this subsection is of such size or contains such population  
135 that its inclusion as a unit in any district would result in  
136 substantial disparity in the size, shape or population of such  
137 district, then the Secretary of State may allocate portions of  
138 such area to two (2) or more districts; and

139 (f) In any allocation of area or correction of  
140 descriptions made pursuant to this House Bill No. 556, 2022  
141 Regular Session, the Secretary of State shall, consistent with the  
142 foregoing standards, preserve the contiguity and compactness of



143 districts and avoid the unnecessary division of political  
144 subdivisions.

145 (4) Copies of such orders shall be filed by the Secretary of  
146 State in his or her own office and in the offices of the affected  
147 election commissioners and registrars. The Secretary of State may  
148 adopt reasonable rules regulating the procedure for applications  
149 for orders under this House Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular Session in  
150 the manner of serving and filing any notice or copy of orders  
151 relating thereto. Upon the filing of such an order, the  
152 description of any affected district shall be deemed to have been  
153 corrected in the manner provided in such order to the full extent  
154 as if such correction had been contained in the original  
155 description set forth in this House Bill No. 556, 2022 Regular  
156 Session.

157 **SECTION 4.** The Standing Joint Congressional Redistricting  
158 Committee is directed to provide all information necessary to  
159 assist the counties in identifying the boundaries of the districts  
160 described in Section 1 of this act.

161 **SECTION 5.** The redistricting contained in Section 1 of this  
162 act shall supersede any prior redistricting, and any prior  
163 redistricting shall be null and void upon the date this House Bill  
164 No. 556, 2022 Regular Session is effectuated.

165 **SECTION 6.** If any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or any  
166 part of this bill is declared to be unconstitutional or void or if  
167 for any reason is declared to be invalid or of no effect, the



168 remaining paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases or parts thereof  
169 shall be in no manner affected thereby but shall remain in full  
170 force and effect.

171           **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
172 and after its passage.

