

By: Representative Crawford

To: Apportionment and  
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 965

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-563, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO CLARIFY THAT ONLY A CURRENT AND VALID MISSISSIPPI'S DRIVER'S  
3 LICENSE, NOT THE DRIVER'S LICENSE OF ANOTHER STATE, SHALL BE  
4 CONSIDERED FOR VOTER IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-563, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 23-15-563. (1) Each person who appears to vote in person at  
10 a polling place or the registrar's office shall be required to  
11 identify himself or herself to a poll manager or the registrar by  
12 presenting current and valid photo identification before such  
13 person shall be allowed to vote.

14 (2) The identification required by subsection (1) of this  
15 section shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

16 (a) A current and valid Mississippi driver's license,  
17 no other state's driver's license shall be accepted;

18 (b) A current and valid identification card issued by a  
19 branch, department, agency or entity of the State of Mississippi;



20 (c) A current and valid United States passport;

21 (d) A current and valid employee identification card  
22 containing a photograph of the elector and issued by any branch,  
23 department, agency or entity of the United States government, the  
24 State of Mississippi, or any county, municipality, board,  
25 authority or other entity of this state;

26 (e) A current and valid Mississippi license to carry a  
27 pistol or revolver;

28 (f) A valid tribal identification card containing a  
29 photograph of the elector;

30 (g) A current and valid United States military  
31 identification card;

32 (h) A current and valid student identification card,  
33 containing a photograph of the elector, issued by any accredited  
34 college, university or community or junior college in the State of  
35 Mississippi; and

36 (i) An official Mississippi voter identification card  
37 containing a photograph of the elector.

38 (3) (a) A person who appears to vote in person at a polling  
39 place and does not have identification as required by this section  
40 may vote by affidavit ballot. The affidavit ballot shall then be  
41 counted if the person shall present acceptable photo  
42 identification to the registrar within five (5) days.

43 (b) An elector who has a religious objection to being  
44 photographed may vote by affidavit ballot, and the elector, within



45 five (5) days after the election, shall execute an affidavit in  
46 the registrar's office affirming that the exemption applies.

47 (4) The intentional failure of an election official to  
48 require a voter to present identification as required by this  
49 section shall be considered corrupt conduct under Section 97-13-19  
50 and shall be reported to the Secretary of State and the Attorney  
51 General.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after July 1, 2022.

