

By: Representatives Banks, Stamps, Crudup

To: Judiciary B;
Constitution

HOUSE BILL NO. 1271

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS OTHERWISE A QUALIFIED ELECTOR AND
3 HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY SHALL HAVE HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE
4 SUSPENDED UPON CONVICTION BUT SHALL HAVE HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE
5 AUTOMATICALLY RESTORED ONCE HE OR SHE HAS SATISFIED ALL OF THE
6 SENTENCING REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONVICTION; TO AMEND SECTIONS
7 23-15-19, 23-15-125, 23-15-151, 23-15-153 AND 23-15-165,
8 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PRECEDING SECTION; TO
9 BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 97-39-3 AND 99-19-37, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
10 1972, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED
11 PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
14 amended as follows:

15 23-15-11. (1) Every inhabitant of this state, except
16 persons adjudicated to be non compos mentis, shall be a qualified
17 elector in and for the county, municipality and voting precinct of
18 his or her residence and shall be entitled to vote at any election
19 upon compliance with Section 23-15-563, if he or she:

20 (a) * * * Is a citizen of the United States of
21 America * * *;

22 (b) Is eighteen (18) years old and upwards * * *;



23 (c) * * * Has resided in this state for thirty (30)
24 days and for thirty (30) days in the county in which he or she
25 seeks to vote, and for thirty (30) days in the incorporated
26 municipality in which he or she seeks to vote * * *; and

27 (d) * * * Has been duly registered as an elector under
28 Section 23-15-33 * * *. If the thirtieth day to register before
29 an election falls on a Sunday or legal holiday, the registration
30 applications submitted on the business day immediately following
31 the Sunday or legal holiday shall be accepted and entered in the
32 Statewide Elections Management System for the purpose of enabling
33 voters to vote in the next election.

34 (2) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector under the
35 provisions of subsection (1) and has been convicted of a felony
36 shall have his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction but
37 shall have his or her right to vote automatically restored once he
38 or she has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the
39 conviction.

40 (3) Any person who will be eighteen (18) years of age or
41 older on or before the date of the general election and who is
42 duly registered to vote not less than thirty (30) days before the
43 primary election associated with the general election, may vote in
44 the primary election even though the person has not reached his or
45 her eighteenth birthday at the time that the person seeks to vote
46 at the primary election.



47 (4) No others than those specified in this section shall be
48 entitled, or shall be allowed, to vote at any election.

49 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
50 amended as follows:

51 23-15-19. Any person who has been convicted of * * * a
52 felony shall have his or her right to vote suspended upon
53 conviction but shall have his or her right to vote automatically
54 restored once he or she has satisfied all of the sentencing
55 requirements of the conviction. Whenever any person shall be
56 convicted in the circuit court of his or her county of a * * *
57 felony, the county registrar shall thereupon remove his or her
58 name from the Statewide Elections Management System * * * until he
59 or she has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the
60 conviction. Whenever any person shall be convicted of a * * *
61 felony in any other court of any county, the presiding judge of
62 the court shall, on demand, certify the fact in writing to the
63 registrar of the county in which the voter resides, who
64 shall * * * remove the name of the person from the Statewide
65 Elections Management System and retain the certificate as a record
66 of his or her office until he or she has satisfied all of the
67 sentencing requirements of the conviction.

68 **SECTION 3.** Section 23-15-125, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
69 amended as follows:

70 23-15-125. The pollbook of each voting precinct shall
71 designate the voting precinct for which it is to be used, and



72 shall be ruled in appropriate columns, with printed or written
73 headings, as follows: date of registration; voter registration
74 number; name of electors; date of birth; and a number of blank
75 columns for the dates of elections. All qualified applicants who
76 register with the registrar shall be entered in the Statewide
77 Elections Management System. Only the names of those qualified
78 applicants who register within thirty (30) days before an election
79 shall appear on the pollbooks of the election; however, if the
80 thirtieth day to register before an election falls on a Sunday or
81 legal holiday, the registration applications submitted on the
82 business day immediately following the legal holiday shall be
83 accepted and entered in the Statewide Elections Management System
84 for the purpose of enabling voters to vote in the next election.
85 When county election commissioners determine that any elector is
86 disqualified from voting, by reason of death, conviction of
87 a * * * felony as provided in Section 23-15-11, removal from the
88 jurisdiction, or other legal cause, that fact shall be noted in
89 the Statewide Elections Management System and the voter's name
90 shall be removed from the Statewide Elections Management System,
91 the state's voter roll and the county's pollbooks. Nothing in
92 this section shall preclude the use of electronic pollbooks. A
93 person who is otherwise a qualified elector under the provisions
94 of Section 23-15-11 and has been convicted of a felony shall have
95 his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction but shall have
96 his or her right to vote automatically restored once he or she has



97 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the conviction.
98 Once the person has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements,
99 the voter's name shall be automatically restored into the
100 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and
101 the county's pollbooks.

102 **SECTION 4.** Section 23-15-151, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
103 amended as follows:

104 23-15-151. The circuit clerk of each county is authorized
105 and directed to prepare and keep in his or her office a full and
106 complete list, in alphabetical order, of persons convicted
107 of * * * a felony whose right to vote has been suspended upon
108 conviction. A certified copy of any enrollment by one clerk to
109 another will be sufficient authority for the enrollment of the
110 name, or names, in another county. A list of persons convicted
111 of * * * a felony whose right to vote has been suspended upon
112 conviction shall also be entered into the Statewide Elections
113 Management System on a quarterly basis. * * * A person who is
114 otherwise a qualified elector under the provisions of Section
115 23-15-11 and has been convicted of a felony shall have his or her
116 right to vote suspended upon conviction but shall have his or her
117 right to vote automatically restored once he or she has satisfied
118 all of the sentencing requirements of the conviction. Once the
119 person has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements, the
120 voter's name shall be automatically restored into the Statewide



121 Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and the
122 county's pollbooks.

123 **SECTION 5.** Section 23-15-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
124 amended as follows:

125 23-15-153. (1) At least during the following times, the
126 election commissioners shall meet at the office of the registrar
127 or the office of the election commissioners to carefully revise
128 the county voter roll as electronically maintained by the
129 Statewide Elections Management System and remove from the roll the
130 names of all voters who have requested to be purged from the voter
131 roll, died, received an adjudication of non compos mentis, been
132 convicted of a * * * felony and had his or her right to vote
133 suspended, or otherwise become disqualified as electors for any
134 cause, and shall register the names of all persons who have duly
135 applied to be registered but have been illegally denied
136 registration:

137 (a) On the Tuesday after the second Monday in January
138 1987 and every following year;

139 (b) On the first Tuesday in the month immediately
140 preceding the first primary election for members of Congress in
141 the years when members of Congress are elected;

142 (c) On the first Monday in the month immediately
143 preceding the first primary election for state, state district
144 legislative, county and county district offices in the years in
145 which those offices are elected; and



146 (d) On the second Monday of September preceding the
147 general election or regular special election day in years in which
148 a general election is not conducted.

149 Except for the names of those voters who are duly qualified
150 to vote in the election, no name shall be permitted to remain in
151 the Statewide Elections Management System; however, no name shall
152 be purged from the Statewide Elections Management System based on
153 a change in the residence of an elector except in accordance with
154 procedures provided for by the National Voter Registration Act of
155 1993. Except as otherwise provided by Section 23-15-573, no
156 person shall vote at any election whose name is not in the county
157 voter roll electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections
158 Management System.

159 (2) Except as provided in this section, and subject to the
160 following annual limitations, the election commissioners shall be
161 entitled to receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred
162 Dollars (\$100.00), to be paid from the county general fund, for
163 every day or period of no less than five (5) hours accumulated
164 over two (2) or more days actually employed in the performance of
165 their duties in the conduct of an election or actually employed in
166 the performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in
167 the revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained
168 by the Statewide Elections Management System as required in
169 subsection (1) of this section:



170 (a) In counties having less than fifteen thousand
171 (15,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
172 census, not more than fifty (50) days per year, with no more than
173 fifteen (15) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
174 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

175 (b) In counties having fifteen thousand (15,000)
176 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
177 less than thirty thousand (30,000) residents according to the
178 latest federal decennial census, not more than seventy-five (75)
179 days per year, with no more than twenty-five (25) additional days
180 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
181 occurring in any calendar year;

182 (c) In counties having thirty thousand (30,000)
183 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
184 less than seventy thousand (70,000) residents according to the
185 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred (100)
186 days per year, with no more than thirty-five (35) additional days
187 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
188 occurring in any calendar year;

189 (d) In counties having seventy thousand (70,000)
190 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
191 less than ninety thousand (90,000) residents according to the
192 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred
193 twenty-five (125) days per year, with no more than forty-five (45)



194 additional days allowed for the conduct of each election in excess
195 of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

196 (e) In counties having ninety thousand (90,000)
197 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
198 less than one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) residents
199 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
200 one hundred fifty (150) days per year, with no more than
201 fifty-five (55) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
202 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

203 (f) In counties having one hundred seventy thousand
204 (170,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
205 census but less than two hundred thousand (200,000) residents
206 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
207 one hundred seventy-five (175) days per year, with no more than
208 sixty-five (65) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
209 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

210 (g) In counties having two hundred thousand (200,000)
211 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
212 less than two hundred twenty-five thousand (225,000) residents
213 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
214 one hundred ninety (190) days per year, with no more than
215 seventy-five (75) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
216 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

217 (h) In counties having two hundred twenty-five thousand
218 (225,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial



219 census but less than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000)
220 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not
221 more than two hundred fifteen (215) days per year, with no more
222 than eighty-five (85) additional days allowed for the conduct of
223 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

224 (i) In counties having two hundred fifty thousand
225 (250,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
226 census but less than two hundred seventy-five thousand (275,000)
227 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not
228 more than two hundred thirty (230) days per year, with no more
229 than ninety-five (95) additional days allowed for the conduct of
230 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

231 (j) In counties having two hundred seventy-five
232 thousand (275,000) residents according to the latest federal
233 decennial census or more, not more than two hundred forty (240)
234 days per year, with no more than one hundred five (105) additional
235 days allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
236 occurring in any calendar year.

237 (3) In addition to the number of days authorized in
238 subsection (2) of this section, the board of supervisors of a
239 county may authorize, in its discretion, the election
240 commissioners to receive a per diem in the amount provided for in
241 subsection (2) of this section, to be paid from the county general
242 fund, for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
243 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the



244 performance of their duties in the conduct of an election or
245 actually employed in the performance of their duties for the
246 necessary time spent in the revision of the county voter roll as
247 electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections Management
248 System as required in subsection (1) of this section, not to
249 exceed five (5) days.

250 (4) (a) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
251 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00),
252 to be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed ten (10)
253 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
254 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
255 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the
256 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by
257 the Statewide Elections Management System before any special
258 election. For purposes of this paragraph, the regular special
259 election day shall not be considered a special election. The
260 annual limitations set forth in subsection (2) of this section
261 shall not apply to this paragraph.

262 (b) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
263 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars
264 (\$150.00), to be paid from the county general fund, for the
265 performance of their duties on the day of any primary, runoff,
266 general or special election. The annual limitations set forth in
267 subsection (2) of this section shall apply to this paragraph.



268 (c) The board of supervisors may, in its discretion,
269 pay the election commissioners an additional amount not to exceed
270 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for the performance of their duties at any
271 election occurring from July 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020,
272 which shall be considered additional pandemic pay. Such
273 compensation shall be payable out of the county general fund, and
274 may be payable from federal funds available for such purpose, or a
275 combination of both funding sources.

276 (5) The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive
277 a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), to be
278 paid from the county general fund, not to exceed fourteen (14)
279 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
280 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
281 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the
282 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by
283 the Statewide Elections Management System and in the conduct of a
284 runoff election following either a general or special election.

285 (6) The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive
286 only one (1) per diem payment for those days when the election
287 commissioners discharge more than one (1) duty or responsibility
288 on the same day.

289 (7) In preparation for a municipal primary, runoff, general
290 or special election, the county registrar shall generate and
291 distribute the master voter roll and pollbooks from the Statewide
292 Elections Management System for the municipality located within



293 the county. The municipality shall pay the county registrar for
294 the actual cost of preparing and printing the municipal master
295 voter roll pollbooks. A municipality may secure "read only"
296 access to the Statewide Elections Management System and print its
297 own pollbooks using this information.

298 (8) County election commissioners who perform the duties of
299 an executive committee with regard to the conduct of a primary
300 election under a written agreement authorized by law to be entered
301 into with an executive committee shall receive per diem as
302 provided for in subsection (2) of this section. The days that
303 county election commissioners are employed in the conduct of a
304 primary election shall be treated the same as days county election
305 commissioners are employed in the conduct of other elections.

306 (9) In addition to any per diem authorized by this section,
307 any election commissioner shall be entitled to the mileage
308 reimbursement rate allowable to federal employees for the use of a
309 privately owned vehicle while on official travel on election day.

310 (10) Every election commissioner shall sign personally a
311 certification setting forth the number of hours actually worked in
312 the performance of the commissioner's official duties and for
313 which the commissioner seeks compensation. The certification must
314 be on a form as prescribed in this subsection. The commissioner's
315 signature is, as a matter of law, made under the commissioner's
316 oath of office and under penalties of perjury.

317 The certification form shall be as follows:



318

COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER

319

PER DIEM CLAIM FORM

320 NAME: _____ COUNTY: _____

321 ADDRESS: _____ DISTRICT: _____

322 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

323 PURPOSE APPLICABLE ACTUAL PER DIEM

324 DATE BEGINNING ENDING OF MS CODE HOURS DAYS

325 WORKED TIME TIME WORK SECTION WORKED EARNED

326 _____

327 _____

328 _____

329 TOTAL NUMBER OF PER DIEM DAYS EARNED

330 EXCLUDING ELECTION DAYS _____

331 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$100.00

332 TOTAL NUMBER PER DIEM DAYS EARNED

333 FOR ELECTION DAYS _____

334 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$150.00

335 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PER DIEM CLAIMED \$ _____

336 I understand that I am signing this document under my oath as
337 an election commissioner and under penalties of perjury.

338 I understand that I am requesting payment from taxpayer funds
339 and that I have an obligation to be specific and truthful as to
340 the amount of hours worked and the compensation I am requesting.

341 Signed this the _____ day of _____, ____.

342 _____



343 Commissioner's Signature

344 When properly completed and signed, the certification must be
345 filed with the clerk of the county board of supervisors before any
346 payment may be made. The certification will be a public record
347 available for inspection and reproduction immediately upon the
348 oral or written request of any person.

349 Any person may contest the accuracy of the certification in
350 any respect by notifying the chair of the commission, any member
351 of the board of supervisors or the clerk of the board of
352 supervisors of the contest at any time before or after payment is
353 made. If the contest is made before payment is made, no payment
354 shall be made as to the contested certificate until the contest is
355 finally disposed of. The person filing the contest shall be
356 entitled to a full hearing, and the clerk of the board of
357 supervisors shall issue subpoenas upon request of the contestor
358 compelling the attendance of witnesses and production of documents
359 and things. The contestor shall have the right to appeal de novo
360 to the circuit court of the involved county, which appeal must be
361 perfected within thirty (30) days from a final decision of the
362 commission, the clerk of the board of supervisors or the board of
363 supervisors, as the case may be.

364 Any contestor who successfully contests any certification
365 will be awarded all expenses incident to his or her contest,
366 together with reasonable attorney's fees, which will be awarded
367 upon petition to the chancery court of the involved county upon



368 final disposition of the contest before the election commission,
369 board of supervisors, clerk of the board of supervisors, or, in
370 case of an appeal, final disposition by the court. The
371 commissioner against whom the contest is decided shall be liable
372 for the payment of the expenses and attorney's fees, and the
373 county shall be jointly and severally liable for same.

374 (11) Any election commissioner who has not received a
375 certificate issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to Section
376 23-15-211 indicating that the election commissioner has received
377 the required elections seminar instruction and that the election
378 commissioner is fully qualified to conduct an election, shall not
379 receive any compensation authorized by this section or Section
380 23-15-239.

381 **SECTION 6.** Section 23-15-165, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
382 amended as follows:

383 23-15-165. (1) The Office of the Secretary of State, in
384 cooperation with the county registrars and election commissioners,
385 shall procure, implement and maintain an electronic information
386 processing system and programs capable of maintaining a
387 centralized database of all registered voters in the state. The
388 system shall encompass software and hardware, at both the state
389 and county level, software development training, conversion and
390 support and maintenance for the system. This system shall be
391 known as the "Statewide Elections Management System" and shall



392 constitute the official record of registered voters in every
393 county of the state.

394 (2) The Office of the Secretary of State shall develop and
395 implement the Statewide Elections Management System so that the
396 registrar and election commissioners of each county shall:

397 (a) Verify that an applicant that is registering to
398 vote in that county is not registered to vote in another county;

399 (b) Be notified automatically that a registered voter
400 in its county has registered to vote in another county;

401 (c) Receive regular reports of death, changes of
402 address and convictions for * * * felonies that cause a voter to
403 have his or her right to vote suspended, that apply to voters
404 registered in the county; * * *

405 (d) Receive regular reports of voters who have
406 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of his or her
407 conviction and automatically restore the voter's name into the
408 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and
409 the county's pollbooks; and

410 (* * *e) Retain all present functionality related to,
411 but not limited to, the use of voter roll data and to implement
412 such other functionality as the law requires to enhance the
413 maintenance of accurate county voter records and related jury
414 selection and redistricting programs.

415 (3) As a part of the procurement and implementation of the
416 system, the Office of the Secretary of State shall, with the



417 assistance of the advisory committee, procure services necessary
418 to convert current voter registration records in the counties into
419 a standard, industry accepted file format that can be used on the
420 Statewide Elections Management System. Thereafter, all official
421 voter information shall be maintained on the Statewide Elections
422 Management System. The standard industry accepted format of data
423 was reviewed and approved by a majority of the advisory committee
424 created in subsection (5) of this section after consultation with
425 the Circuit Clerks Association and the format may not be changed
426 without consulting the Circuit Clerks Association.

427 (4) The Secretary of State may, with the assistance of the
428 advisory committee, adopt rules and regulations necessary to
429 administer the Statewide Elections Management System. The rules
430 and regulations shall at least:

431 (a) Provide for the establishment and maintenance of a
432 centralized database for all voter registration information in the
433 state;

434 (b) Provide procedures for integrating data into the
435 centralized database;

436 (c) Provide security to ensure that only the registrar,
437 or his or her designee or other appropriate official, as the law
438 may require, can add information to, delete information from and
439 modify information in the system;

440 (d) Provide the registrar or his or her designee or
441 other appropriate official, as the law may require, access to the



442 system at all times, including the ability to download copies of
443 the industry standard file, for all purposes related to their
444 official duties, including, but not limited to, exclusive access
445 for the purpose of printing all local pollbooks;

446 (e) Provide security and protection of all information
447 in the system and monitor the system to ensure that unauthorized
448 access is not allowed;

449 (f) Provide a procedure that will allow the registrar,
450 or his or her designee or other appropriate official, as the law
451 may require, to identify the precinct to which a voter should be
452 assigned; and

453 (g) Provide a procedure for phasing in or converting
454 existing manual and computerized voter registration systems in
455 counties to the Statewide Elections Management System.

456 (5) The Secretary of State established an advisory committee
457 to assist in developing system specifications, procurement,
458 implementation and maintenance of the Statewide Elections
459 Management System. The committee included two (2) representatives
460 from the Circuit Clerks Association, appointed by the association;
461 two (2) representatives from the Election Commissioners
462 Association of Mississippi, appointed by the association; one (1)
463 member of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors, or its
464 staff, appointed by the association; the Director of the Stennis
465 Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, or his or
466 her designee; the Executive Director of the Department of



467 Information Technology Services, or his or her designee; two (2)
468 persons knowledgeable about elections and information technology
469 appointed by the Secretary of State; and the Secretary of State,
470 who shall serve as the chair of the advisory committee.

471 (6) (a) Social security numbers, telephone numbers and date
472 of birth and age information in statewide, district, county and
473 municipal voter registration files shall be exempt from and shall
474 not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction
475 under the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983.

476 (b) Copies of statewide, district, county or municipal
477 voter registration files, excluding social security numbers,
478 telephone numbers and date of birth and age information, shall be
479 provided to any person in accordance with the Mississippi Public
480 Records Act of 1983 at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of
481 production.

482 **SECTION 7.** Section 97-39-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
483 brought forward as follows:

484 97-39-3. If any person shall fight a duel, or give or accept
485 a challenge to fight a duel, or knowingly carry or deliver such
486 challenge or the acceptance thereof, or be second to either party
487 to any duel, whether such act be done in the state or out of it,
488 or who shall go out of the state to fight a duel, or to assist in
489 the same as second, or to send, accept, or carry a challenge,
490 shall be disqualified from holding any office, be disenfranchised,
491 and incapable of holding or being elected to any post of honor,



492 profit or emolument, civil or military, under the constitution and
493 laws of this state; and the appointment of any such person to
494 office, as also all votes given to any such person, are illegal,
495 and none of the votes given to such person for any office shall be
496 taken or counted.

497 **SECTION 8.** Section 99-19-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
498 brought forward as follows:

499 99-19-37. (1) Any person who has lost the right of suffrage
500 by reason of conviction of crime and has not been pardoned
501 therefrom, who thereafter served honorably in any branch of the
502 Armed Forces of the United States during the periods of World War
503 I or World War II as hereinafter defined and shall have received
504 an honorable discharge, or release therefrom, shall by reason of
505 such honorable service, have the full right of suffrage restored,
506 provided, however, this does not apply to any one having an
507 unfinished or suspended sentence.

508 (2) For the purposes of this section the period of World War
509 I shall be from April 6, 1917 to December 1, 1918, and the period
510 of World War II shall be from December 7, 1941 to December 31,
511 1946.

512 (3) In order to have restored, and to exercise, the right of
513 franchise under the provisions of this section a person affected
514 hereby shall have his discharge, or release, from the Armed Forces
515 of the United States recorded in the office of the chancery clerk
516 of the county in which such person desires to exercise the right



517 of franchise and if such discharge, or release, appears to be an
518 honorable discharge, or release, and shows such person to have
519 served honorably during either of the periods stated in subsection
520 (2) of this section such person shall have the full right of
521 suffrage restored as though an act had been passed by the
522 Legislature in accordance with Section 253 of the Constitution of
523 the State of Mississippi restoring the right of suffrage to such
524 person.

525 **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
526 and after July 1, 2022.

