

By: Representative Sanford

To: Apportionment and
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 1476

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-807, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE TIME FOR FILING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS WHEN THOSE
3 REPORTS ARE FILED ELECTRONICALLY OR WITH A FAX MACHINE; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-807, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 23-15-807. (a) Each candidate or political committee shall
9 file reports of contributions and disbursements in accordance with
10 the provisions of this section. All candidates or political
11 committees required to report such contributions and disbursements
12 may terminate the obligation to report only upon submitting a
13 final report that contributions will no longer be received or
14 disbursements made and that the candidate or committee has no
15 outstanding debts or obligations. The candidate, treasurer or
16 chief executive officer shall sign the report.

17 (b) Candidates seeking election, or nomination for election,
18 and political committees making expenditures to influence or
19 attempt to influence voters for or against the nomination for



20 election of one or more candidates or balloted measures at such
21 election, shall file the following reports:

22 (i) In any calendar year during which there is a
23 regularly scheduled election, a pre-election report shall be filed
24 no later than the seventh day before any election in which the
25 candidate or political committee has accepted contributions or
26 made expenditures and shall be completed as of the tenth day
27 before the election;

28 (ii) In 1987 and every fourth year thereafter, periodic
29 reports shall be filed no later than the tenth day after April 30,
30 May 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, and shall be
31 completed as of the last day of each period;

32 (iii) In any calendar years except 1987 and except
33 every fourth year thereafter, a report covering the calendar year
34 shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar
35 year; and

36 (iv) Except as otherwise provided in the requirements
37 of paragraph (i) of this subsection (b), unopposed candidates are
38 not required to file pre-election reports but must file all other
39 reports required by paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of this subsection
40 (b).

41 (c) All candidates for judicial office as defined in Section
42 23-15-975, or their political committees, shall file periodic
43 reports in the year in which they are to be elected no later than



44 the tenth day after April 30, May 31, June 30, September 30 and
45 December 31.

46 (d) Each report under this article shall disclose:

47 (i) For the reporting period and the calendar year, the
48 total amount of all contributions and the total amount of all
49 expenditures of the candidate or reporting committee, including
50 those required to be identified pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this
51 subsection (d) as well as the total of all other contributions and
52 expenditures during the calendar year. The reports shall be
53 cumulative during the calendar year to which they relate;

54 (ii) The identification of:

55 1. Each person or political committee who makes a
56 contribution to the reporting candidate or political committee
57 during the reporting period, whose contribution or contributions
58 within the calendar year have an aggregate amount or value in
59 excess of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) together with the date and
60 amount of any such contribution;

61 2. Each person or organization, candidate or
62 political committee who receives an expenditure, payment or other
63 transfer from the reporting candidate, political committee or its
64 agent, employee, designee, contractor, consultant or other person
65 or persons acting in its behalf during the reporting period when
66 the expenditure, payment or other transfer to the person,
67 organization, candidate or political committee within the calendar
68 year have an aggregate value or amount in excess of Two Hundred



69 Dollars (\$200.00) together with the date and amount of the
70 expenditure;

71 (iii) The total amount of cash on hand of each
72 reporting candidate and reporting political committee;

73 (iv) In addition to the contents of reports specified
74 in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) of this subsection (d), each
75 political party shall disclose:

76 1. Each person or political committee who makes a
77 contribution to a political party during the reporting period and
78 whose contribution or contributions to a political party within
79 the calendar year have an aggregate amount or value in excess of
80 Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), together with the date and amount
81 of the contribution;

82 2. Each person or organization who receives an
83 expenditure or expenditures by a political party during the
84 reporting period when the expenditure or expenditures to the
85 person or organization within the calendar year have an aggregate
86 value or amount in excess of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00),
87 together with the date and amount of the expenditure;

88 (v) Disclosure required under this section of an
89 expenditure to a credit card issuer, financial institution or
90 business allowing payments and money transfers to be made over the
91 Internet must include, by way of detail or separate entry, the
92 amount of funds passing to each person, business entity or
93 organization receiving funds from the expenditure.



94 (e) The appropriate office specified in Section 23-15-805
95 must be in actual receipt of the reports specified in this article
96 by 5:00 p.m. on the dates specified in subsection (b) of this
97 section if the reports are hand delivered or delivered by mail;
98 however, if the reports are filed electronically or by an
99 electronic facsimile (FAX) device, the appropriate office
100 specified in Section 23-15-805 must be in actual receipt of the
101 reports specified in this article by 11:59 p.m. on the dates
102 specified in subsection (b) of this section. If the date
103 specified in subsection (b) of this section shall fall on a
104 weekend or legal holiday then the report shall be due in the
105 appropriate office at 5:00 p.m. or 11:59 p.m., as appropriate, on
106 the first working day before the date specified in subsection (b)
107 of this section. The reporting candidate or reporting political
108 committee shall ensure that the reports are delivered to the
109 appropriate office by the filing deadline. The Secretary of State
110 may approve specific means of electronic transmission of completed
111 campaign finance disclosure reports, which may include, but not be
112 limited to, transmission by electronic facsimile (FAX) devices.

113 (f) (i) If any contribution of more than Two Hundred
114 Dollars (\$200.00) is received by a candidate or candidate's
115 political committee after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight
116 (48) hours before 12:01 a.m. of the day of the election, the
117 candidate or political committee shall notify the appropriate
118 office designated in Section 23-15-805, within forty-eight (48)



119 hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall
120 include:

- 121 1. The name of the receiving candidate;
- 122 2. The name of the receiving candidate's political
123 committee, if any;
- 124 3. The office sought by the candidate;
- 125 4. The identification of the contributor;
- 126 5. The date of receipt;
- 127 6. The amount of the contribution;
- 128 7. If the contribution is in-kind, a description
129 of the in-kind contribution; and
- 130 8. The signature of the candidate or the treasurer
131 or chair of the candidate's political organization.

132 (ii) The notification shall be in writing, and may be
133 transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable
134 means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or
135 candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in
136 fact be received in the appropriate office designated in Section
137 23-15-805 within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution.

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

