

By: Senator(s) DeBar

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2291

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE NONPARTISAN COUNTY ELECTIONS ACT; TO
 2 PROVIDE THAT THE COUNTY OFFICES OF CHANCERY CLERK, CIRCUIT CLERK,
 3 TAX ASSESSOR, TAX COLLECTOR, COUNTY SURVEYOR AND COUNTY CORONER
 4 SHALL BE NONPARTISAN; TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS FOR SUCH ACT; TO
 5 PROVIDE WHEN A CANDIDATE SHALL FILE THEIR INTENT AND THE AMOUNT OF
 6 FEES APPLICABLE FOR SUCH OFFICE; TO PROVIDE HOW THE NAMES OF THE
 7 CANDIDATES SHALL BE GROUPED ON A BALLOT; TO PROVIDE THE PROCEDURE
 8 WHEN TWO OR MORE CANDIDATES QUALIFY FOR COUNTY OFFICE; TO AMEND
 9 SECTION 23-15-297, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REMOVE COUNTY
 10 OFFICES FROM FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTY NOMINATION; TO AMEND
 11 SECTIONS 23-15-21, 23-15-31, 23-15-153, 23-15-291, 23-15-507 AND
 12 23-15-911, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED
 13 PURPOSES.

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

15 **SECTION 1.** (1) This act shall be known and may be cited as
 16 the "Nonpartisan County Elections Act."

17 (2) The purpose of this act is to provide that the following
 18 county offices shall be nonpartisan: chancery clerk, circuit
 19 clerk, tax assessor, tax collector, county surveyor and county
 20 coroner.

21 **SECTION 2.** (1) A county office listed in Section 1 of this
 22 act shall be a nonpartisan office and a candidate for election to
 23 a county office is prohibited from campaigning or qualifying for



24 such an office based on party affiliation. No committee,
25 political party, or political committee affiliated with a
26 political party shall engage in fund-raising, make any
27 contribution, nor endorse any candidate or officeholder of a
28 nonpartisan county office, or the political committee of a
29 candidate or officeholder of a nonpartisan county office. No
30 candidate, candidate's political committee, nor officeholder of a
31 nonpartisan county office shall accept a contribution from any
32 committee, political party, nor political committee affiliated
33 with a political party.

34 (2) Except as otherwise provided by this act, the general
35 laws for election in this state shall apply to and govern the
36 election for county offices.

37 **SECTION 3.** (1) For purposes of this act, the following
38 words shall have the meanings provided herein, unless the context
39 clearly indicates otherwise:

40 (a) "Preferential county election" means an election
41 held for the purpose of determining those candidates for county
42 offices listed in Section 1 of this act whose names will be placed
43 on the general or regular election ballot. Any person who meets
44 the qualifications as a candidate for a county office may be a
45 candidate in the preferential county election without regard to
46 party affiliation or lack of party affiliation.

47 (b) "General election" or "regular election" means an
48 election held as provided by law in Title 23, Chapter 15,



49 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the purpose of determining which
50 candidate shall be elected to office.

51 (c) "County office" means an office listed in Section 1
52 of this act.

53 (d) "Candidate" means a person who enters the race for
54 an office listed in Section 1 of this act.

55 (2) All qualified electors of the State of Mississippi,
56 without regard to party affiliation or lack of party affiliation,
57 shall be qualified to vote for candidates for nomination for
58 county office.

59 **SECTION 4.** (1) All candidates for county office listed in
60 Section 1 of this act shall file their intent to be a candidate
61 with the proper officials not later than 5:00 p.m. sixty (60) days
62 before any general or regular election and pay the proper
63 officials One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

64 (2) No person shall be denied a place upon the ballot for
65 any office for which he desires to be a candidate because of his
66 inability to pay the assessment set out above.

67 (3) Candidates for county office shall file their intent to
68 be a candidate with, and pay the proper assessment made pursuant
69 to subsection (1) of this section to the circuit clerk of the
70 county. The circuit clerk shall notify the county commissioners
71 of election of all persons who have filed their intent to be a
72 candidate with, and paid the proper assessment to, such clerk,
73 within two (2) business days.



74 **SECTION 5.** (1) The names of candidates for county office
75 which appear on the ballot at the general election shall be
76 grouped together on a separate portion of the ballot, clearly
77 identified as nonpartisan county elections.

78 (2) The names of all candidates for county office shall be
79 listed in alphabetical order on any ballot and no reference to
80 political party affiliation shall appear on any ballot with
81 respect to any nonpartisan county office or candidate.

82 (3) The name of an unopposed candidate for county office
83 shall be placed on the general election ballot.

84 **SECTION 6.** If two (2) or more candidates qualify for county
85 office, the names of those candidates shall be placed on the
86 general election ballot. If any candidate for such an office
87 receives a majority of the votes cast for such office in the
88 general election, he shall be declared elected. If no candidate
89 for such office receives a majority of the votes cast for such
90 office in the general election, the names of the two (2)
91 candidates receiving the highest number of votes for such office
92 shall be placed on the ballot for a second election to be held
93 three (3) weeks later in accordance with appropriate procedures
94 followed in other runoff elections.

95 **SECTION 7.** Section 23-15-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
96 amended as follows:



97 23-15-21. It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a
98 citizen of the United States or the State of Mississippi to
99 register or to vote in any * * * election in the state.

100 **SECTION 8.** Section 23-15-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
101 amended as follows:

102 23-15-31. All of the provisions of this subarticle shall be
103 applicable, insofar as possible, to municipal, primary, county
104 preferential, general and special elections; and wherever therein
105 any duty is imposed or any power or authority is conferred upon
106 the county registrar, county election commissioners or county
107 executive committee with reference to a state and county election,
108 such duty shall likewise be conferred upon the municipal
109 registrar, municipal election commission or municipal executive
110 committee with reference to any municipal election.

111 **SECTION 9.** Section 23-15-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
112 amended as follows:

113 23-15-153. (1) At least during the following times, the
114 election commissioners shall meet at the office of the registrar
115 or the office of the election commissioners to carefully revise
116 the county voter roll as electronically maintained by the
117 Statewide Elections Management System and remove from the roll the
118 names of all voters who have requested to be purged from the voter
119 roll, died, received an adjudication of non compos mentis, been
120 convicted of a disenfranchising crime, or otherwise become
121 disqualified as electors for any cause, and shall register the



122 names of all persons who have duly applied to be registered but
123 have been illegally denied registration:

124 (a) On the Tuesday after the second Monday in January
125 1987 and every following year;

126 (b) On the first Tuesday in the month immediately
127 preceding the first primary election for members of Congress in
128 the years when members of Congress are elected;

129 (c) (i) On the first Monday in the month immediately
130 preceding the first primary election for state, state district
131 legislative, county and county district offices in the years in
132 which those offices are elected; and

133 (ii) On the first Monday in the month immediately
134 preceding the first county preferential election for nonpartisan
135 county offices in the years in which those offices are elected;
136 and

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

140 Except for the names of those voters who are duly qualified
141 to vote in the election, no name shall be permitted to remain in
142 the Statewide Elections Management System; however, no name shall
143 be purged from the Statewide Elections Management System based on
144 a change in the residence of an elector except in accordance with
145 procedures provided for by the National Voter Registration Act of
146 1993. Except as otherwise provided by Section 23-15-573, no



147 person shall vote at any election whose name is not in the county
148 voter roll electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections
149 Management System.

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

161 (a) In counties having less than fifteen thousand
162 (15,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
163 census, not more than fifty (50) days per year, with no more than
164 fifteen (15) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
165 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

166 (b) In counties having fifteen thousand (15,000)
167 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
168 less than thirty thousand (30,000) residents according to the
169 latest federal decennial census, not more than seventy-five (75)
170 days per year, with no more than twenty-five (25) additional days



171 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
172 occurring in any calendar year;

173 (c) In counties having thirty thousand (30,000)
174 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
175 less than seventy thousand (70,000) residents according to the
176 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred (100)
177 days per year, with no more than thirty-five (35) additional days
178 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
179 occurring in any calendar year;

180 (d) In counties having seventy thousand (70,000)
181 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
182 less than ninety thousand (90,000) residents according to the
183 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred
184 twenty-five (125) days per year, with no more than forty-five (45)
185 additional days allowed for the conduct of each election in excess
186 of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

187 (e) In counties having ninety thousand (90,000)
188 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
189 less than one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) residents
190 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
191 one hundred fifty (150) days per year, with no more than
192 fifty-five (55) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
193 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

194 (f) In counties having one hundred seventy thousand
195 (170,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial



196 census but less than two hundred thousand (200,000) residents
197 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
198 one hundred seventy-five (175) days per year, with no more than
199 sixty-five (65) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
200 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

201 (g) In counties having two hundred thousand (200,000)
202 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
203 less than two hundred twenty-five thousand (225,000) residents
204 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
205 one hundred ninety (190) days per year, with no more than
206 seventy-five (75) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
207 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

208 (h) In counties having two hundred twenty-five thousand
209 (225,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
210 census but less than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000)
211 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not
212 more than two hundred fifteen (215) days per year, with no more
213 than eighty-five (85) additional days allowed for the conduct of
214 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

215 (i) In counties having two hundred fifty thousand
216 (250,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
217 census but less than two hundred seventy-five thousand (275,000)
218 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not
219 more than two hundred thirty (230) days per year, with no more



220 than ninety-five (95) additional days allowed for the conduct of
221 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

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

228 (3) In addition to the number of days authorized in
229 subsection (2) of this section, the board of supervisors of a
230 county may authorize, in its discretion, the election
231 commissioners to receive a per diem in the amount provided for in
232 subsection (2) of this section, to be paid from the county general
233 fund, for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
234 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
235 performance of their duties in the conduct of an election or
236 actually employed in the performance of their duties for the
237 necessary time spent in the revision of the county voter roll as
238 electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections Management
239 System as required in subsection (1) of this section, not to
240 exceed five (5) days.

241 (4) (a) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
242 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00),
243 to be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed ten (10)
244 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours



245 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
246 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the
247 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by
248 the Statewide Elections Management System before any special
249 election. For purposes of this paragraph, the regular special
250 election day shall not be considered a special election. The
251 annual limitations set forth in subsection (2) of this section
252 shall not apply to this paragraph.

253 (b) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
254 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars
255 (\$150.00), to be paid from the county general fund, for the
256 performance of their duties on the day of any primary, runoff,
257 general or special election. The annual limitations set forth in
258 subsection (2) of this section shall apply to this paragraph.

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

267 (5) The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive
268 a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), to be
269 paid from the county general fund, not to exceed fourteen (14)



270 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
271 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
272 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the
273 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by
274 the Statewide Elections Management System and in the conduct of a
275 runoff election following either a general or special election.

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

280 (7) In preparation for a municipal primary, runoff, general
281 or special election, the county registrar shall generate and
282 distribute the master voter roll and pollbooks from the Statewide
283 Elections Management System for the municipality located within
284 the county. The municipality shall pay the county registrar for
285 the actual cost of preparing and printing the municipal master
286 voter roll pollbooks. A municipality may secure "read only"
287 access to the Statewide Elections Management System and print its
288 own pollbooks using this information.

289 (8) County election commissioners who perform the duties of
290 an executive committee with regard to the conduct of a primary
291 election under a written agreement authorized by law to be entered
292 into with an executive committee shall receive per diem as
293 provided for in subsection (2) of this section. The days that
294 county election commissioners are employed in the conduct of a



295 primary election shall be treated the same as days county election
296 commissioners are employed in the conduct of other elections.

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

301 (10) Every election commissioner shall sign personally a
302 certification setting forth the number of hours actually worked in
303 the performance of the commissioner's official duties and for
304 which the commissioner seeks compensation. The certification must
305 be on a form as prescribed in this subsection. The commissioner's
306 signature is, as a matter of law, made under the commissioner's
307 oath of office and under penalties of perjury.

308 The certification form shall be as follows:

309 **COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER**

310 **PER DIEM CLAIM FORM**

311 NAME: _____ COUNTY: _____

312 ADDRESS: _____ DISTRICT: _____

313 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

314 PURPOSE APPLICABLE ACTUAL PER DIEM

315 DATE BEGINNING ENDING OF MS CODE HOURS DAYS

316 WORKED TIME TIME WORK SECTION WORKED EARNED

317 _____

318 _____

319 _____



320 TOTAL NUMBER OF PER DIEM DAYS EARNED
 321 EXCLUDING ELECTION DAYS _____
 322 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$100.00
 323 TOTAL NUMBER PER DIEM DAYS EARNED
 324 FOR ELECTION DAYS _____
 325 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$150.00
 326 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PER DIEM CLAIMED \$ _____

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

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

332 Signed this the _____ day of _____, ____.

333 _____
 334 Commissioner's Signature

335 When properly completed and signed, the certification must be
 336 filed with the clerk of the county board of supervisors before any
 337 payment may be made. The certification will be a public record
 338 available for inspection and reproduction immediately upon the
 339 oral or written request of any person.

340 Any person may contest the accuracy of the certification in
 341 any respect by notifying the chair of the commission, any member
 342 of the board of supervisors or the clerk of the board of
 343 supervisors of the contest at any time before or after payment is
 344 made. If the contest is made before payment is made, no payment



345 shall be made as to the contested certificate until the contest is
346 finally disposed of. The person filing the contest shall be
347 entitled to a full hearing, and the clerk of the board of
348 supervisors shall issue subpoenas upon request of the contestor
349 compelling the attendance of witnesses and production of documents
350 and things. The contestor shall have the right to appeal de novo
351 to the circuit court of the involved county, which appeal must be
352 perfected within thirty (30) days from a final decision of the
353 commission, the clerk of the board of supervisors or the board of
354 supervisors, as the case may be.

355 Any contestor who successfully contests any certification
356 will be awarded all expenses incident to his or her contest,
357 together with reasonable attorney's fees, which will be awarded
358 upon petition to the chancery court of the involved county upon
359 final disposition of the contest before the election commission,
360 board of supervisors, clerk of the board of supervisors, or, in
361 case of an appeal, final disposition by the court. The
362 commissioner against whom the contest is decided shall be liable
363 for the payment of the expenses and attorney's fees, and the
364 county shall be jointly and severally liable for same.

365 (11) Any election commissioner who has not received a
366 certificate issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to Section
367 23-15-211 indicating that the election commissioner has received
368 the required elections seminar instruction and that the election
369 commissioner is fully qualified to conduct an election, shall not



370 receive any compensation authorized by this section or Section
371 23-15-239.

372 **SECTION 10.** Section 23-15-291, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
373 amended as follows:

374 23-15-291. Except as provided in Sections 1 and 3 of this
375 act, all nominations for state, district, county and county
376 district officers made by the different parties of this state
377 shall be made by primary elections. All primary elections shall
378 be governed and regulated by the election laws of the state in
379 force at the time the primary election is held.

380 **SECTION 11.** Section 23-15-297, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
381 amended as follows:

382 23-15-297. All candidates upon entering the race for party
383 nominations for office shall first pay to the proper officer as
384 provided for in Section 23-15-299 for each primary election and
385 all independent candidates and special election candidates shall
386 pay to the proper officer as provided for in Section 23-15-299 the
387 following amounts:

388 (a) Candidates for Governor, One Thousand Dollars
389 (\$1,000.00).

390 (b) Candidates for Lieutenant Governor, Attorney
391 General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Public
392 Accounts, Commissioner of Insurance, Commissioner of Agriculture
393 and Commerce, State Highway Commissioner and State Public Service
394 Commissioner, Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).



395 (c) Candidates for district attorney, State Senator and
396 State Representative, Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

397 (d) Candidates for sheriff, * * * county attorney,
398 county superintendent of education and board of supervisors, One
399 Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

400 (e) Candidates for * * * justice court judge and
401 constable, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

402 (f) Candidates for United States Senator, One Thousand
403 Dollars (\$1,000.00).

404 (g) Candidates for United States Representative, Five
405 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

406 **SECTION 12.** Section 23-15-507, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
407 amended as follows:

408 23-15-507. No OMR equipment shall be acquired or used in
409 accordance with this chapter unless it shall:

410 (a) Permit eligible voters to vote at any election for
411 all persons for whom they are lawfully entitled to vote; to vote
412 for as many persons for an office as they are lawfully entitled to
413 vote; to vote for or against any ballot initiative, measure or
414 other local issue upon which they are lawfully entitled to vote;

415 (b) The OMR equipment shall be capable of rejecting
416 choices marked on the ballot if the number of choices exceeds the
417 number that the voter is entitled to vote for the office or on the
418 measure;



419 (c) Permit each voter, in presidential elections, by
420 one (1) mark to vote for the candidates of that party for
421 President, Vice President, and their presidential electors, or to
422 vote individually for the electors of their choice when permitted
423 by law;

424 (d) Permit each voter, in other than primary elections,
425 to vote for the * * * candidates of one or more parties and for
426 independent candidates;

427 (e) Permit each voter to vote for candidates only in
428 the primary in which he or she is qualified to vote;

429 (f) Permit each voter to vote for persons whose names
430 are not on the printed ballot;

431 (g) Be suitably designed for the purpose used, of
432 durable construction, and may be used safely, efficiently and
433 accurately in the conduct of elections and the counting of
434 ballots;

435 (h) Be provided with means for sealing the ballots
436 after the close of the polls;

437 (i) When properly operated, record correctly and count
438 accurately all votes cast; and

439 (j) Provide the voter with a set of instructions that
440 will be displayed in such a way that a voter may readily learn the
441 method of voting.

442 **SECTION 13.** Section 23-15-911, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
443 amended as follows:



444 23-15-911. (1) (a) When the returns for a box and the
445 contents of the ballot box and the conduct of the election have
446 been canvassed and reviewed by the county election commission in
447 the case of general and preferential elections or the county
448 executive committee in the case of primary elections, all the
449 contents of the box required to be placed and sealed in the ballot
450 box by the poll managers shall be replaced therein by the election
451 commission or executive committee, as the case may be, and the box
452 shall be forthwith resealed and delivered to the circuit clerk,
453 who shall safely keep and secure the same against any tampering.
454 At any time within twelve (12) days after the canvass and
455 examination of the box and its contents by the election commission
456 or executive committee, as the case may be, any candidate or his
457 or her representative authorized in writing by him or her shall
458 have the right of full examination of the box and its contents
459 upon three (3) days' notice of his or her application therefor
460 served upon the opposing candidates. The service of notice shall
461 be provided to each opposing candidate by delivering a copy
462 personally to each candidate, or by performing two (2) of the
463 following:

464 (i) By leaving a copy at each candidate's usual
465 place of residence with a family member, who shall be no less than
466 sixteen (16) years of age and, who resides in the candidate's
467 residence;



468 (ii) By email or other electronic means, with
469 receipt deemed upon transmission; or

470 (iii) By mailing a copy of the notice by
471 registered or certified mail that is addressed to each opposing
472 candidate at that candidate's residence with receipt deemed
473 mailing.

474 (b) If service of notice cannot be made to any opposing
475 candidate, then notice may be posted on the door of each
476 candidate's usual place of abode. If any candidate's usual place
477 of residence is a multifamily dwelling, a copy of the notice must
478 be mailed to the candidate or candidates by United States
479 first-class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested.
480 Proof of service of notice upon any opposing candidate shall be
481 made to the circuit clerk within three (3) days before a full
482 examination of the ballot box may be conducted.

483 (c) The examination shall be conducted in the presence
484 of the circuit clerk or his or her deputy who shall be charged
485 with the duty to see that none of the contents of the box are
486 removed from the presence of the clerk or in any way tampered
487 with. Upon the completion of the examination the box shall be
488 resealed with all its original contents inside. And if any
489 contest or complaint before the court shall arise over the box, it
490 shall be kept intact and sealed until the court hearing and
491 another ballot box, if necessary, shall be furnished for the
492 precinct involved.



493 (2) The provisions of this section allowing the examination
494 of ballot boxes shall apply in the case of an election contest
495 regarding the seat of a member of the state Legislature. In such
496 a case, the results of the examination shall be reported by the
497 applicable circuit clerk to the Clerk of the House of
498 Representatives or the Secretary of the Senate, as the case may
499 be.

500 **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
501 and after July 1, 2022.

