

By: Senator(s) Carter

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2293

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-7 AND 23-15-135, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO DELETE THE REFERENCES TO THE MISSISSIPPI
3 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IN RELATION TO MISSISSIPPI VOTER
4 IDENTIFICATION CARDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

8 23-15-7. (1) The Secretary of State shall negotiate a
9 Memorandum of Understanding which shall be entered into by the
10 Mississippi Department of Public Safety and the registrar of each
11 county for the purpose of providing a Mississippi Voter
12 Identification Card. The card shall be valid for the purpose of
13 voter identification purposes under Section 23-15-563 and
14 available only to registered voters of this state. No fee shall
15 be charged or collected for the application for or issuance of a
16 Mississippi Voter Identification Card. Any costs associated with
17 the application for or issuance of a Mississippi Voter
18 Identification Card shall be made payable from the state's General
19 Fund.



20 (2) The registrar of each county shall provide a location in
21 the registrar's office at which he or she shall accept
22 applications for Mississippi Voter Identification Cards * * *;
23 however, in counties having two (2) judicial districts the
24 registrar shall provide a location in the registrar's office in
25 each judicial district at which he or she shall accept
26 applications for Mississippi Voter Identification Cards * * *.

27 (3) No person shall be eligible for a Mississippi Voter
28 Identification Card if the person has a valid unexpired
29 Mississippi driver's license or an identification card issued
30 under Section 45-35-1 et seq.

31 (4) (a) The Mississippi Voter Identification Card shall be
32 captioned "MISSISSIPPI VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD" and shall
33 contain a prominent statement that under Mississippi law it is
34 valid only as identification for voting purposes. The
35 identification card shall include the following information
36 regarding the applicant:

- 37 (i) Full legal name;
- 38 (ii) Legal residence address;
- 39 (iii) Mailing address, if different; and
- 40 (iv) Voting information.

41 (b) The Mississippi Voter Identification Card shall
42 also contain the date the voter identification card was issued,
43 the county in which the voter is registered and such other
44 information as required by the Secretary of State.



45 (5) The application shall be signed and sworn to by the
46 applicant and any falsification or fraud in the making of the
47 application shall constitute false swearing under Section 97-7-35.

48 (6) The registrar shall require presentation and
49 verification of any of the following information during the
50 application process before issuance of a Mississippi Voter
51 Identification Card:

52 (a) A photo identity document; or

53 (b) Documentation showing the person's date and place
54 of birth; or

55 (c) A social security card; or

56 (d) A Medicare card; or

57 (e) A Medicaid card; or

58 (f) Such other acceptable evidence of verification of
59 residence in the county as determined by the Secretary of State.

60 (7) A Mississippi Voter Identification Card shall remain
61 valid for as long as the cardholder remains qualified to vote. It
62 shall be the duty of a person who moves his or her residence
63 within this state to surrender his or her voter identification
64 card to the registrar of the county of his or her new residence
65 and that person may thereafter apply for and receive a new card if
66 such person is eligible under this section. It shall be the duty
67 of a person who moves his or her residence outside this state or
68 who ceases to be qualified to vote to surrender his or her card to
69 the registrar who issued it.



70 (8) The Secretary of State, in conjunction with the
71 Mississippi Department of Public Safety, shall adopt rules and
72 regulations for the administration of this section.

73 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-135, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
74 amended as follows:

75 23-15-135. (1) The master voter roll as electronically
76 maintained by the Statewide Elections Management System of the
77 several voting precincts of each county and the pollbooks
78 heretofore in use shall be delivered to the registrar of the
79 county, and they, together with the master voter roll and
80 pollbooks hereafter made, shall be records of his or her office,
81 and he or she shall carefully preserve the same as such; and after
82 each election the pollbooks shall be speedily returned to the
83 office of the registrar.

84 (2) The registrar of each county shall provide a location in
85 the registrar's office at which he or she shall accept
86 applications for Mississippi Voter Identification Cards * * *.

87 (3) The registrar of each county shall enter into a
88 Memorandum of Understanding, which is negotiated by the Secretary
89 of State, with the Mississippi Department of Public Safety for the
90 purpose of providing a Mississippi Voter Identification Card.

91 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
92 and after its passage.

