SENATE BILL NO. 2410

1   AN ACT TO ENACT THE MISSISSIPPI ELECTIONS INTEGRITY ACT OF
2 2022; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY PERSON SUBMITTING A VOTER REGISTRATION
3 APPLICATION MUST PRESENT CERTAIN DOCUMENTS TO PROVE HIS OR HER
4 STATUS AS A UNITED STATES CITIZEN; TO CODIFY NEW SECTION
5 23-15-15.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE
6 STATEWIDE ELECTIONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHALL BE COMPARED TO THE
7 IDENTIFICATION DATABASES A SINGLE TIME TO ENSURE NON-UNITED STATES
8 CITIZENS ARE NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE; TO PROVIDE THE NOTIFICATION
9 REQUIRED WHEN A NON-UNITED STATES CITIZEN IS FOUND TO BE
10 REGISTERED TO VOTE; TO PROVIDE THE DOCUMENTATION THAT MUST BE
11 SUBMITTED AS PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP; TO REQUIRE ELECTION
12 COMMISSIONERS TO INSPECT ALL EXISTING VOTER ROLLS AGAINST A
13 VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON FILE ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE
14 WITHIN A CERTAIN TIMEFRAME; TO REQUIRE THE OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF
15 THE ELECTION TO USE ONLY CERTAIN VOTING EQUIPMENT IN ANY ELECTION
16 AFTER JANUARY 1, 2024; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-625, MISSISSIPPI
17 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE REGISTRAR TO COMPARE AN APPLICANT
18 SIGNATURE ON THE APPLICATION FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT AGAINST THE
19 VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON FILE; TO REQUIRE THE REGISTRAR TO DENY THE
20 APPLICATION AND NOT MAIL A BALLOT IF THE SIGNATURE DOES NOT MATCH;
21 TO AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-33, 23-15-39 AND 23-15-47, 23-15-165,
22 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM; TO REPEAL SECTION 23-15-15,
23 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES THE DOCUMENTATION THAT A
24 NATURALIZED CITIZEN MUST PRESENT IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR
25 TO VOTE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL SECTIONS 23-15-531,
26 23-15-531.1, 23-15-531.2, 23-15-531.3, 23-15-531.4, 23-15-531.5,
27 23-15-531.6, 23-15-531.9, 23-15-531.10 AND 23-15-531.12,
28 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES THE AUTHORITY FOR THE USE
29 OF DIRECT RECORDING ELECTRONIC VOTING EQUIPMENT AT POLLING PLACES,
30 ON A CERTAIN DATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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32   **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as "The

33   Mississippi Elections Integrity Act of 2022."

34   **SECTION 2.** Any person submitting an application to be

35   registered as an elector in compliance with the laws of this state

36   must provide one (1) of the following documents to prove his or

37   her United States citizenship:

38   (a) A birth certificate or a legible photocopy of the

39   birth certificate;

40   (b) A United States passport, or a legible photocopy of

41   the pertinent pages of the passport, identifying the person and

42   showing the passport number;

43   (c) A United States naturalization documentation, a

44   legible photocopy of the naturalization documentation, or the

45   number of the voter's certificate of naturalization; except that

46   any person who provides the number of the certificate of

47   naturalization in lieu of the naturalization documentation shall

48   not be deemed to have provided proof of citizenship until the

49   registrar verifies the number with the United States Citizenship

50   and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security or

51   its successor; or

52   (d) Any document or method of proof of citizenship

53   established by the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of

54   1986, Public Law 99-603, compiled in 8 USC Section 1101 et seq.

55   **SECTION 3.** The following shall be codified as Section

56   23-15-15.1, Mississippi Code of 1972:

57   23-15-15.1 (1) (a) The Secretary of State shall:

58   (i) Compare the entire Statewide Elections

59   Management System with the state's identification databases to

60   ensure non-United States citizens are not registered to vote in

61   this state a single time within one (1) year of the effective date

62   of this act.

63   (ii) Establish a signature database in cooperation

64   with the Department of Public Safety in order to compare a voter's

65   signatures on the day of voting or requesting an absentee ballot

66   against the voter's signature on file.

67   (b) The Secretary of State is authorized to enter into

68   a memorandum of understanding to compare the Statewide Elections

69   Management System with relevant federal or state agencies and

70   county records for the same purpose.

71   (c) If evidence exists that a particular registered

72   voter is not a citizen of the United States, the Statewide

73   Elections Management System shall notify the registrar, or his or

74   her designee, where the person registered to vote that the

75   registered voter may not be a citizen of the United States.

76   (2) After receiving the notice from the Statewide Elections

77   Management System as provided in subsection (1) of this section,

78   the registrar, or his or her designee, shall:

79   (a) Enter the registered voter's information into the

80   United States Citizenship and Immigration Service's Systematic

81 Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) or its successor

82 database for further inquiry; and

83   (b) If both the state's identification databases and

84 the database in paragraph (a) of this subsection indicate that the

85 registered voter is a noncitizen, send a notice to the registered

86 voter inquiring whether the individual is eligible to be

87 registered to vote.

88   (3) Any registered voter who receives the notice under

89 subsection (2)(b) of this section shall, within thirty (30) days

90 of the receipt of such notice, provide proof of citizenship to the

91 registrar or his or her designee.

92   (4) For purposes of this subsection (4), proof of

93 citizenship includes, but is not limited to:

94   (a) The voter's birth certificate or a legible

95 photocopy of the birth certificate;

96   (b) A United States passport, or a legible photocopy of

97 the pertinent pages of the passport, identifying the voter and

98 showing the passport number;

99   (c) The voter's United States naturalization

100 documentation, a legible photocopy of the naturalization

101 documentation, or the number of the voter's Certificate of

102 Naturalization; except that any person who provides the number of

103 the Certificate of Naturalization in lieu of the naturalization

104 documentation shall not be deemed to have provided proof of

105 citizenship until the Secretary of State verifies the number with

106 the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services in the

107 department of Homeland Security or its successor; or

108   (d) Any document or method of proof of citizenship

109 established by the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of

110 1986, Public Law 99-603, compiled in 8 USC Section 1101 et seq.

111   (5) If the registered voter does not provide proof of

112 citizenship within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the

113 notification, the registrar of the county, or his or her designee,

114 where the person registered to vote shall purge the voter from the

115 Statewide Elections Management System.

116   (6) In the event a voter is unable to provide any

117 documentation listed in subsection (3) of this section to show

118 proof of citizenship, the voter may appeal to the Board of

119 Election Commissioners of the county in which he or she attempted

120 to register and submit additional proof of citizenship in person

121 or in writing. The Board of Election Commissioners shall conduct

122 a hearing and make a finding concerning the individual's

123 citizenship status and shall forward a copy of their decision to

124 the registrar, or his or her designee, of the county where the

125 person resides as established in Section 23-15-61. The Statewide

126 Elections Management System shall be changed by the registrar, or

127 his or her designee, to accurately reflect the decision of the

128 Board of Election Commissioners with respect to such voter.

129   (7) All documentation provided to show proof of citizenship

130 as well as the Department of Public Safety database or relevant

131 federal and state agency and county records shall be confidential

132 and shall not be available for inspection by the public.

133   (8) Election commissioners shall inspect all existing voter

134 rolls against a voter's signature on file under subsection

135 (1)(a)(ii) within one year of July 1, 2022.

136   (8) The Secretary of State shall adopt the necessary rules

137 and regulations for the administration of this section.

138   **SECTION 4.** (1) "Voting system" means any voting machine,

139 voting device, precinct ballot scanner, ballot marking device,

140 tabulation server or vote tabulating device that:

141   (i) Does not utilize pre-scored punch card

142 ballots; and

143   (ii) Meets the certification requirements

144 promulgated by the Secretary of State.

145   (2) For any election held in this state after January 1,

146 2024, the officials in charge of the election shall only use

147 voting systems as defined by subsection (1) of this section.

148   (3) For any election held in this state after January 1,

149 2024, the officials in charge of the election shall only use

150 voting machines, voting devices, precinct ballot scanners, ballot

151 marking devices or vote tabulating devices that:

152   (a) Do not have the capability of wireless remote

153 connections; or

154   (b) Have the capacity for all wireless connection

155 capabilities to be disabled.

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156   (4) For any election held in this state after January 1,

157 2024, the officials in charge of the election shall only use

158 voting machines, voting devices, precinct ballot scanners, ballot

159 marking devices or vote tabulating devices that have a means of

160 identification so that the scanner cannot count any ballot more

161 than once.

162   (5) The Secretary of State shall adopt and publish

163 certifications to enforce this section.

164   **SECTION 5.** Section 23-15-625, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

165 amended as follows:

166   23-15-625. (1) The registrar shall be responsible for

167 providing applications for absentee voting as provided in this

168 section. At least sixty (60) days before any election in which

169 absentee voting is provided for by law, the registrar shall

170 provide a sufficient number of applications. In the event a

171 special election is called and set at a date which makes it

172 impractical or impossible to prepare applications for absent

173 elector's ballot sixty (60) days before the election, the

174 registrar shall provide applications as soon as practicable after

175 the election is called. The registrar shall fill in the date of

176 the particular election on the application for which the

177 application will be used.

178   (2) (a) The registrar shall be authorized to disburse

179 applications for absentee ballots to any qualified elector within

180 the county where he or she serves. Any person who presents to the

181 registrar an oral or written request for an absentee ballot

182 application for a voter entitled to vote absentee by mail, other

183 than the elector who seeks to vote by absentee ballot, shall, in

184 the presence of the registrar, sign the application and print on

185 the application his or her name and address and the name of the

186 elector for whom the application is being requested in the place

187 provided for on the application for that purpose. However, if for

188 any reason such person is unable to write the information

189 required, then the registrar shall write the information on a

190 printed form which has been prescribed by the Secretary of State.

191 The form shall provide a place for such person to place his or her

192 mark after the form has been filled out by the registrar.

193   (b) This signature shall be compared against signature

194 on file in the database provided for in Section 23-15-15.1. If

195 the signature does not match, the application shall be rejected

196 and no ballot shall be mailed.

197   (3) It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit absentee

198 ballot applications or absentee ballots for persons staying in any

199 skilled nursing facility as defined in Section 41-7-173 unless the

200 person soliciting the absentee ballot applications or absentee

201 ballots is:

202   (a) A family member of the person staying in the

203 skilled nursing facility; or

204   (b) A person designated by the person for whom the

205 absentee ballot application or absentee ballot is sought, the

206 registrar or the deputy registrar.

207   As used in this subsection, "family member" means a spouse,

208 parent, grandparent, sibling, adult child, grandchild or legal

209 guardian.

210   (4) The registrar in the county wherein a voter is qualified

211 to vote upon receiving by mail the envelope containing the

212 absentee ballots shall keep an accurate list of all persons

213 preparing such ballots. The list shall be kept in a conspicuous

214 place accessible to the public near the entrance to the

215 registrar's office. The registrar shall also furnish to each

216 precinct manager a list of the names of all persons in each

217 respective precinct voting absentee by mail and in person to be

218 posted in a conspicuous place at the polling place for public

219 notice. The application on file with the registrar and the

220 envelopes containing the ballots that voters mailed to the

221 registrar shall be kept by the registrar in his or her office in a

222 secure location. At the time such boxes are delivered to the

223 election commissioners or managers, the registrar shall also turn

224 over a list of all such persons who have voted and whose mailed

225 ballots are in the registrar's office.

226   (5) The registrar shall also be authorized to mail one (1)

227 application to any qualified elector of the county, who is

228 eligible to vote by absentee ballot, for use in a particular

229 election.

230   (6) The registrar shall process all applications for

231 absentee ballots by using the Statewide Election Management

232 System. The registrar shall account for all absentee ballots

233 delivered to and received by mail as well as those who voted

234 absentee in person from qualified voters by processing such

235 ballots using the Statewide Election Management System.

236   **SECTION 6.** Section 23-15-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

237 amended as follows:

238   23-15-33. (1) Every person entitled to be registered as an

239 elector in compliance with the laws of this state and who (a) has

240 signed his or her name on and properly completed the application

241 for registration to vote; and (b) has submitted proof of his or

242 her United States citizenship as provided in Section 2 of this act

243 shall be registered by the county registrar in the voting precinct

244 of the residence of such person through the Statewide Elections

245 Management System.

246   (2) Every person entitled to be registered as an elector in

247 compliance with the laws of this state and who registers to vote

248 pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 shall be

249 registered by the county registrar in the voting precinct of the

250 residence of such person through the Statewide Elections

251 Management System.

252   **SECTION 7.** Section 23-15-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

253   amended as follows:

254   23-15-39. (1) Applications for registration as electors of

255   this state, which are sworn to and subscribed before the registrar

256   or deputy registrar authorized by law and which are not made by

257   mail, shall be made upon a form established by rule duly adopted

258   by the Secretary of State. Applications for registration shall

259   include a portion allowing the applicant to indicate his or her

260   United States citizenship status and shall instruct the applicant

261   to submit proof of such citizenship by presenting a document

262   listed in Section 2 of this act.

263   (2) The boards of supervisors shall make proper allowances

264   for office supplies reasonably necessitated by the registration of

265   county electors.

266   (3) If the applicant indicates on the application that he or

267   she resides within the city limits of a city or town in the county

268   of registration, the county registrar shall process the

269   application for registration or changes to the registration as

270   provided by law.

271   (4) If the applicant indicates on the application that he or

272   she has previously registered to vote in another county of this

273   state or another state, notice to the voter's previous county of

274   registration in this state shall be provided by the Statewide

275   Elections Management System. If the voter's previous place of

276   registration was in another state, notice shall be provided to the

277   voter's previous state of residence if the Statewide Elections

278   Management System has that capability.

279   (5) The county registrar shall provide to the person making

280   the application a copy of the application upon which has been

281   written the county voting precinct and municipal voting precinct,

282   if any, in which the person shall vote. Upon entry of the voter

283   registration information into the Statewide Elections Management

284   System, the system shall assign a voter registration number to the

285   person, and the county registrar shall mail the applicant a voter

286   registration card to the mailing address provided on the

287   application.

288   (6) Any person desiring an application for registration may

289   secure an application from the registrar of the county of which he

290   or she is a resident and may take the application with him or her

291   and secure assistance in completing the application from any

292   person of the applicant's choice. It shall be the duty of all

293   registrars to furnish applications for registration to all persons

294   requesting them, and it shall likewise be the registrar's duty to

295   furnish aid and assistance in the completing of the application

296   when requested by an applicant. The application for registration

297   shall be sworn to and subscribed before the registrar or deputy

298   registrar at the municipal clerk's office, the county registrar's

299   office or any other location where the applicant is allowed to

300   register to vote. The registrar shall not charge a fee or cost to

301   the applicant for accepting the application or administering the

302 oath or for any other duty imposed by law regarding the
303 registration of electors.

304   (7) If the person making the application is unable to read
305 or write, for reason of disability or otherwise, he or she shall
306 not be required to personally complete the application in writing
307 and execute the oath. In such cases, the registrar or deputy
308 registrar shall read the application and oath to the person and
309 the person's answers thereto shall be recorded by the registrar or
310 the registrar's deputy. The person shall be registered as an
311 elector if he or she otherwise meets the requirements to be
312 registered as an elector. The registrar shall record the
313 responses of the person and the recorded responses shall be
314 retained permanently by the registrar. The county registrar shall
315 enter the voter registration information into the Statewide
316 Elections Management System and designate the entry as an assisted
317 filing.

318   (8) The receipt of a copy of the application for
319 registration sent pursuant to Section 23-15-35(2) shall be
320 sufficient to allow the applicant to be registered as an elector
321 of this state, if the application is not challenged.

322   (9) In any case in which the corporate boundaries of a
323 municipality change, whether by annexation or redistricting, the
324 municipal clerk shall, within ten (10) days after approval of the
325 change in corporate boundaries, provide to the county registrar
326 conforming geographic data that is compatible with the Statewide

327 Elections Management System. The data shall be developed by the

328 municipality's use of a standardized format specified by the

329 Statewide Elections Management System. The county registrar,

330 county election commissioner or other county official, who has

331 completed an annual training seminar sponsored by the Secretary of

332 State pertaining to the implementation of new boundary lines in

333 the Statewide Elections Management System and received

334 certification for that training, shall update the municipal

335 boundary information into the Statewide Elections Management

336 System. The Statewide Elections Management System updates the

337 municipal voter registration records and assigns electors to their

338 municipal voting precincts. The county registrar shall forward to

339 the municipal clerk written notification of the additions and

340 changes, and the municipal clerk shall forward to the affected

341 municipal electors written notification of the additions and

342 changes.

343   **SECTION 8.** Section 23-15-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

344 amended as follows:

345   23-15-47. (1) Any person who is qualified to register to

346 vote in the State of Mississippi may register to vote by mail-in

347 application in the manner prescribed in this section.

348   (2) The following procedure shall be used in the

349 registration of electors by mail:

350   (a) Any qualified elector may register to vote by

351 mailing or delivering a completed mail-in application to his or

352 her county registrar at least thirty (30) days before any

353 election; however, if the thirtieth day to register before an

354 election falls on a Sunday or legal holiday, the registration

355 applications submitted on the business day immediately following

356 the Sunday or legal holiday shall be accepted and entered into the

357 Statewide Elections Management System for the purpose of enabling

358 voters to vote in the next election. The postmark date of a

359 mailed application shall be the applicant's date of registration.

360   (b) Upon receipt of a mail-in application, the county

361 registrar shall stamp the application with the date of receipt,

362 and shall verify the application either by matching the

363 applicant's Mississippi driver's license number through the

364 Mississippi Department of Public Safety or by matching the

365 applicant's social security number through the American

366 Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. Additionally, the

367 county registrar shall verify that the applicant has submitted

368 proof of his or her United States citizenship by attaching a

369 document listed in Section 2 of this act to the application.

370 Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of a mail-in registration

371 application, the county registrar shall complete action on the

372 application, including any attempts to notify the applicant of the

373 status of his or her application.

374   (c) If the county registrar determines that the

375 applicant is qualified and his or her application is legible and

376 complete, the county registrar shall mail the applicant written

377 notification that the application has been approved, specifying
378 the county voting precinct, municipal voting precinct, if any,
379 polling place and supervisor district in which the person shall
380 vote. This written notification of approval containing the
381 specified information shall be the voter's registration card. The
382 registration card shall be provided by the county registrar to the
383 applicant in accordance with Section 23-15-39. Upon entry of the
384 voter registration information into the Statewide Elections
385 Management System, the system shall assign a voter registration
386 number to the applicant. The assigned voter registration number
387 shall be clearly shown on the written notification of approval.
388 In mailing the written notification, the county registrar shall
389 note the following on the envelope: "DO NOT FORWARD." If any
390 registration notification form is returned as undeliverable, the
391 voter's registration shall be void.
392   (d)   A mail-in application shall be rejected for any of
393 the following reasons:
394   (i)   An incomplete portion of the application makes
395 it impossible for the registrar to determine the eligibility of
396 the applicant to register;
397   (ii)   A portion of the application is illegible in
398 the opinion of the county registrar and makes it impossible to
399 determine the eligibility of the applicant to register;
400   (iii)   The county registrar is unable to determine,
401 from the address and information stated on the application, the

402 precinct in which the voter should be assigned or the supervisor

403 district in which he or she is entitled to vote;

404   (iv) The applicant is not qualified to register to

405 vote pursuant to Section 23-15-11;

406   (v) The county registrar determines that the

407 applicant is already registered as a qualified elector of the

408 county;

409   (vi) The county registrar is unable to verify the

410 application pursuant to *** * *** paragraph (b) of this subsection.

411   (e) If the mail-in application of a person is subject

412 to rejection for any of the reasons set forth in paragraph (d)(i)

413 through (iii) of this subsection, and it appears to the county

414 registrar that the defect or omission is of such a minor nature

415 and that any necessary additional information may be supplied by

416 the applicant over the telephone or by further correspondence, the

417 county registrar may write or call the applicant at the telephone

418 number or address, or both, provided on the application. If the

419 county registrar is able to contact the applicant by mail or

420 telephone, the county registrar shall attempt to ascertain the

421 necessary information, and if this information is sufficient for

422 the registrar to complete the application, the applicant shall be

423 registered. If the necessary information cannot be obtained by

424 mail or telephone, or is not sufficient to complete the

425 application within fourteen (14) days of receipt, the county

426 registrar shall give the applicant written notice of the rejection

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427 and provide the reason for the rejection. The county registrar

428 shall further inform the applicant that he or she has a right to

429 attempt to register by appearing in person or by filing another

430 mail-in application.

431   (f) If a mail-in application is subject to rejection

432 for the reason stated in paragraph (d)(v) of this subsection and

433 the "present home address" portion of the application is different

434 from the residence address for the applicant found in the

435 Statewide Elections Management System, the mail-in application

436 shall be deemed a written request to update the voter's

437 registration pursuant to Section 23-15-13. The county registrar

438 or the election commissioners shall update the voter's residence

439 address in the Statewide Elections Management System and, if

440 necessary, advise the voter of a change in the location of his or

441 her county or municipal polling place by mailing the voter a new

442 voter registration card.

443   (3) The instructions and the application form for voter

444 registration by mail shall be in a form established by rule duly

445 adopted by the Secretary of State.

446   (4) (a) The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish

447 without charge the necessary forms for application for voter

448 registration by mail to each county registrar, municipal clerk,

449 all public schools, each private school that requests such

450 applications, and all public libraries.

451   (b) The Secretary of State shall distribute without
452 charge sufficient forms for application for voter registration by
453 mail to the Commissioner of Public Safety, who shall distribute
454 the forms to each driver's license examining and renewal station
455 in the state, and shall ensure that the forms are regularly
456 available to the public at such stations.

457   (c) Bulk quantities of forms for application for voter
458 registration by mail shall be furnished by the Secretary of State
459 to any person or organization. The Secretary of State shall
460 charge a person or organization the actual cost he or she incurs
461 in providing bulk quantities of forms for application for voter
462 registration to such person or organization.

463   (5) The originals of completed mail-in applications shall
464 remain on file in the office of the county registrar with copies
465 retained in the Statewide Elections Management System.

466   (6) If the applicant indicates on the application that he or
467 she resides within the city limits of a city or town in the county
468 of registration, the county registrar shall enter the information
469 into the Statewide Elections Management System.

470   (7) If the applicant indicates on the application that he or
471 she has previously registered to vote in another county of this
472 state or another state, notice to the voter's previous county of
473 registration in this state shall be provided through the Statewide
474 Elections Management System. If the voter's previous place of

475 registration was in another state, notice shall be provided to the

476 voter's previous state of residence.

477   (8) Any person who attempts to register to vote by mail

478 shall be subject to the penalties for false registration provided

479 for in Section 23-15-17.

480   **SECTION 9.** Section 23-15-165, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

481 amended as follows:

482   23-15-165. (1) The Office of the Secretary of State, in

483 cooperation with the county registrars and election commissioners,

484 shall procure, implement and maintain an electronic information

485 processing system and programs capable of maintaining a

486 centralized database of all registered voters in the state. The

487 system shall encompass software and hardware, at both the state

488 and county level, software development training, conversion and

489 support and maintenance for the system. This system shall be

490 known as the "Statewide Elections Management System" and shall

491 constitute the official record of registered voters in every

492 county of the state.

493   (2) The Office of the Secretary of State shall develop and

494 implement the Statewide Elections Management System so that the

495 registrar and election commissioners of each county shall:

496   (a) Verify that an applicant that is registering to

497 vote in that county is not registered to vote in another county;

498   (b) Be notified automatically that a registered voter

499 in its county has registered to vote in another county;

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500   (c) Receive regular reports of death, changes of
501 address and convictions for disenfranchising crimes that apply to
502 voters registered in the county; *** * ***

503   (d) Retain all present functionality related to, but
504 not limited to, the use of voter roll data and to implement such
505 other functionality as the law requires to enhance the maintenance
506 of accurate county voter records and related jury selection and
507 redistricting programs *** * ***; and

508   (e) When evidence exists that a particular registered
509 voter may not be a citizen of the United States, send notification
510 to the registrar of the location where the person is registered to
511 vote.

512   (3) As a part of the procurement and implementation of the
513 system, the Office of the Secretary of State shall, with the
514 assistance of the advisory committee, procure services necessary
515 to convert current voter registration records in the counties into
516 a standard, industry accepted file format that can be used on the
517 Statewide Elections Management System. Thereafter, all official
518 voter information shall be maintained on the Statewide Elections
519 Management System. The standard industry accepted format of data
520 was reviewed and approved by a majority of the advisory committee
521 created in subsection (5) of this section after consultation with
522 the Circuit Clerks Association and the format may not be changed
523 without consulting the Circuit Clerks Association.

524   (4) The Secretary of State may, with the assistance of the
525 advisory committee, adopt rules and regulations necessary to
526 administer the Statewide Elections Management System. The rules
527 and regulations shall at least:

528   (a) Provide for the establishment and maintenance of a
529 centralized database for all voter registration information in the
530 state;

531   (b) Provide procedures for integrating data into the
532 centralized database;

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

537   (d) Provide the registrar or his or her designee or
538 other appropriate official, as the law may require, access to the
539 system at all times, including the ability to download copies of
540 the industry standard file, for all purposes related to their
541 official duties, including, but not limited to, exclusive access
542 for the purpose of printing all local pollbooks;

543   (e) Provide security and protection of all information
544 in the system and monitor the system to ensure that unauthorized
545 access is not allowed;

546   (f) Provide a procedure that will allow the registrar,
547 or his or her designee or other appropriate official, as the law

548 may require, to identify the precinct to which a voter should be

549 assigned; and

550   (g) Provide a procedure for phasing in or converting

551 existing manual and computerized voter registration systems in

552 counties to the Statewide Elections Management System.

553   (5) The Secretary of State established an advisory committee

554 to assist in developing system specifications, procurement,

555 implementation and maintenance of the Statewide Elections

556 Management System. The committee included two (2) representatives

557 from the Circuit Clerks Association, appointed by the association;

558 two (2) representatives from the Election Commissioners

559 Association of Mississippi, appointed by the association; one (1)

560 member of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors, or its

561 staff, appointed by the association; the Director of the Stennis

562 Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, or his or

563 her designee; the Executive Director of the Department of

564 Information Technology Services, or his or her designee; two (2)

565 persons knowledgeable about elections and information technology

566 appointed by the Secretary of State; and the Secretary of State,

567 who shall serve as the chair of the advisory committee.

568   (6) (a) Social security numbers, telephone numbers and date

569 of birth and age information in statewide, district, county and

570 municipal voter registration files shall be exempt from and shall

571 not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction

572 under the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983.

573   (b) Copies of statewide, district, county or municipal

574 voter registration files, excluding social security numbers,

575 telephone numbers and date of birth and age information, shall be

576 provided to any person in accordance with the Mississippi Public

577 Records Act of 1983 at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of

578 production.

579   **SECTION 10.** Section 23-15-15, Mississippi Code of 1972,

580 which provides that any person who has acquired citizenship by

581 order or decree of naturalization and who is otherwise qualified

582 to register and vote under the laws of the State of Mississippi

583 shall present or exhibit to the registrar of the county of his or

584 her residence, at or before the time he or she may offer to

585 register, a certified copy of the final order or decree of

586 naturalization, or a Certificate of Naturalization or duplicate

587 thereof, or a certified copy of such Certificate of Naturalization

588 or duplicate in order to be allowed to register or to vote, is

589 repealed.

590   **SECTION 11.** Sections 23-15-531, 23-15-531.1, 23-15-531.2,

591 23-15-531.3, 23-15-531.4, 23-15-531.5, 23-15-531.6, 23-15-531.9,

592 23-15-531.10 and 23-15-531.12, Mississippi Code of 1972, which

593 provide the authority for the use of direct recording electronic

594 voting equipment at polling places, shall stand repealed on

595 December 1, 2023.

596   **SECTION 12.** This act shall take effect and be in force from

597 and after July 1, 2022.