

By: Senator(s) Tate, England, Hill

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2575

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-973, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROHIBIT CIRCUIT JUDGES FROM ALLOWING ANY CANDIDATE FOR JUSTICE
3 OF THE SUPREME COURT, JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, CIRCUIT JUDGE
4 OR CHANCELLOR TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC DURING COURT TERMS; TO DELETE
5 THE PROHIBITION AGAINST ANY CANDIDATE FOR JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME
6 COURT, JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, CIRCUIT JUDGE OR CHANCELLOR
7 ALIGNING HIMSELF OR HERSELF WITH ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATES FOR
8 ANY OTHER OFFICE OR WITH ANY POLITICAL FACTION OR ANY POLITICAL
9 PARTY AT ANY TIME DURING ANY PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN;
10 TO DELETE THE PENALTY FOR DOING SO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-973, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
13 amended as follows:

14 23-15-973. * * * No judge of any circuit court may provide
15 an opportunity for any candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court,
16 Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge or chancellor to
17 address the public during court terms. It shall be unlawful for
18 any candidate for any other office nominated or to be nominated at
19 any primary election, wherein any candidate for any of the
20 judicial offices in this section mentioned, is or are to be
21 nominated, to align himself with any one or more of the candidates
22 for said offices or to take any part whatever in any nomination



23 for any one or more of said judicial offices, except to cast his
24 individual vote. * * *

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

