

By: Representative Mickens

To: Judiciary B;
Constitution

HOUSE BILL NO. 157

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
 2 TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS OTHERWISE A QUALIFIED ELECTOR AND
 3 HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF VOTE FRAUD, OF ANY CRIME LISTED IN SECTION
 4 241, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, OR OF ANY CRIME INTERPRETED
 5 AS DISENFRANCHISING IN LATER ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS, SHALL HAVE
 6 HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE SUSPENDED UPON CONVICTION BUT SHALL HAVE
 7 HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE AUTOMATICALLY RESTORED ONCE HE OR SHE HAS
 8 SATISFIED ALL OF THE SENTENCING REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONVICTION; TO
 9 AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-19, 23-15-125, 23-15-151, 23-15-153 AND
 10 23-15-165, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PRECEDING
 11 SECTION; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 97-39-3 AND 99-19-37,
 12 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT;
 13 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

15 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 16 amended as follows:

17 23-15-11. (1) Every inhabitant of this state, except
 18 persons adjudicated to be non compos mentis, shall be a qualified
 19 elector in and for the county, municipality and voting precinct of
 20 his or her residence and shall be entitled to vote at any election
 21 upon compliance with Section 23-15-563, if he or she:

22 (a) * * * Is a citizen of the United States of
 23 America * * *;



24 (b) Is eighteen (18) years old and upwards * * *;

25 (c) * * * Has resided in this state for thirty (30)
26 days and for thirty (30) days in the county in which he or she
27 seeks to vote, and for thirty (30) days in the incorporated
28 municipality in which he or she seeks to vote * * *;

29 (d) * * * Has been duly registered as an elector under
30 Section 23-15-33; and

31 (e) * * * Has never been convicted of vote fraud or of
32 any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of
33 1890 * * *.

34 If the thirtieth day to register before an election falls on
35 a Sunday or legal holiday, the registration applications submitted
36 on the business day immediately following the Sunday or legal
37 holiday shall be accepted and entered in the Statewide Elections
38 Management System for the purpose of enabling voters to vote in
39 the next election.

40 (2) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector under the
41 provisions of subsection (1) and has been convicted of vote fraud,
42 of any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of
43 1890, or of any crime interpreted as disenfranchising in later
44 Attorney General opinions, shall have his or her right to vote
45 suspended upon conviction but shall have his or her right to vote
46 automatically restored once he or she has satisfied all of the
47 sentencing requirements of the conviction.



48 (3) Any person who will be eighteen (18) years of age or
49 older on or before the date of the general election and who is
50 duly registered to vote not less than thirty (30) days before the
51 primary election associated with the general election, may vote in
52 the primary election even though the person has not reached his or
53 her eighteenth birthday at the time that the person seeks to vote
54 at the primary election.

55 (4) No others than those specified in this section shall be
56 entitled, or shall be allowed, to vote at any election.

57 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
58 amended as follows:

59 23-15-19. Any person who has been convicted of vote
60 fraud * * *, any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi
61 Constitution of 1890, or of any crime interpreted as
62 disenfranchising in later Attorney General opinions, such crimes
63 defined as "disenfranchising," shall * * * have his or her right
64 to vote suspended upon conviction but shall have his or her right
65 to vote automatically restored once he or she has satisfied all of
66 the sentencing requirements of the conviction. Whenever any
67 person shall be convicted in the circuit court of his or her
68 county of a disenfranchising crime, the county registrar shall
69 thereupon remove his or her name from the Statewide Elections
70 Management System * * * until he or she has satisfied all of the
71 sentencing requirements of the conviction. Whenever any person
72 shall be convicted of a disenfranchising crime in any other court



73 of any county, the presiding judge of the court shall, on demand,
74 certify the fact in writing to the registrar of the county in
75 which the voter resides, who shall * * * remove the name of the
76 person from the Statewide Elections Management System and retain
77 the certificate as a record of his or her office until he or she
78 has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the
79 conviction.

80 **SECTION 3.** Section 23-15-125, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
81 amended as follows:

82 23-15-125. The pollbook of each voting precinct shall
83 designate the voting precinct for which it is to be used, and
84 shall be ruled in appropriate columns, with printed or written
85 headings, as follows: date of registration; voter registration
86 number; name of electors; date of birth; and a number of blank
87 columns for the dates of elections. All qualified applicants who
88 register with the registrar shall be entered in the Statewide
89 Elections Management System. Only the names of those qualified
90 applicants who register within thirty (30) days before an election
91 shall appear on the pollbooks of the election; however, if the
92 thirtieth day to register before an election falls on a Sunday or
93 legal holiday, the registration applications submitted on the
94 business day immediately following the legal holiday shall be
95 accepted and entered in the Statewide Elections Management System
96 for the purpose of enabling voters to vote in the next election.
97 When county election commissioners determine that any elector is



98 disqualified from voting, by reason of death, conviction of a
99 disenfranchising crime, removal from the jurisdiction, or other
100 legal cause, that fact shall be noted in the Statewide Elections
101 Management System and the voter's name shall be removed from the
102 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and
103 the county's pollbooks. Nothing in this section shall preclude
104 the use of electronic pollbooks. A person who is otherwise a
105 qualified elector under the provisions of Section 23-15-11 and has
106 been convicted of vote fraud, of any crime listed in Section 241,
107 Mississippi Constitution of 1890, or of any crime interpreted as
108 disenfranchising in later Attorney General opinions, shall have
109 his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction but shall have
110 his or her right to vote automatically restored once he or she has
111 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the conviction.
112 Once the person has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements,
113 the voter's name shall be automatically restored into the
114 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and
115 the county's pollbooks.

116 **SECTION 4.** Section 23-15-151, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
117 amended as follows:

118 23-15-151. The circuit clerk of each county is authorized
119 and directed to prepare and keep in his or her office a full and
120 complete list, in alphabetical order, of persons convicted of
121 voter fraud * * *, of any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi
122 Constitution of 1890 or of any crime interpreted as



123 disenfranchising in later Attorney General opinions. A certified
124 copy of any enrollment by one clerk to another will be sufficient
125 authority for the enrollment of the name, or names, in another
126 county. A list of persons convicted of voter fraud, any crime
127 listed in Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, or any
128 crime interpreted as disenfranchising in later Attorney General
129 opinions, shall also be entered into the Statewide Elections
130 Management System on a quarterly basis. * * * A person who is
131 otherwise a qualified elector under the provisions of Section
132 23-15-11 and has been convicted of vote fraud, of any crime listed
133 in Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, or of any crime
134 interpreted as disenfranchising in later Attorney General
135 opinions, shall have his or her right to vote suspended upon
136 conviction but shall have his or her right to vote automatically
137 restored once he or she has satisfied all of the sentencing
138 requirements of the conviction. Once the person has satisfied all
139 of the sentencing requirements, the voter's name shall be
140 automatically restored into the Statewide Elections Management
141 System, the state's voter roll and the county's pollbooks.

142 **SECTION 5.** Section 23-15-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
143 amended as follows:

144 23-15-153. (1) At least during the following times, the
145 election commissioners shall meet at the office of the registrar
146 or the office of the election commissioners to carefully revise
147 the county voter roll as electronically maintained by the



148 Statewide Elections Management System and remove from the roll the
149 names of all voters who have requested to be purged from the voter
150 roll, died, received an adjudication of non compos mentis, been
151 convicted of a disenfranchising crime and had his or her right to
152 vote suspended, or otherwise become disqualified as electors for
153 any cause, and shall register the names of all persons who have
154 duly applied to be registered but have been illegally denied
155 registration:

156 (a) On the Tuesday after the second Monday in January
157 1987 and every following year;

158 (b) On the first Tuesday in the month immediately
159 preceding the first primary election for members of Congress in
160 the years when members of Congress are elected;

161 (c) On the first Monday in the month immediately
162 preceding the first primary election for state, state district
163 legislative, county and county district offices in the years in
164 which those offices are elected; and

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

168 Except for the names of those voters who are duly qualified
169 to vote in the election, no name shall be permitted to remain in
170 the Statewide Elections Management System; however, no name shall
171 be purged from the Statewide Elections Management System based on
172 a change in the residence of an elector except in accordance with



173 procedures provided for by the National Voter Registration Act of
174 1993. Except as otherwise provided by Section 23-15-573, no
175 person shall vote at any election whose name is not in the county
176 voter roll electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections
177 Management System.

178 (2) Except as provided in this section, and subject to the
179 following annual limitations, the election commissioners shall be
180 entitled to receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten
181 Dollars (\$110.00), to be paid from the county general fund, for
182 every day or period of no less than five (5) hours accumulated
183 over two (2) or more days actually employed in the performance of
184 their duties in the conduct of an election or actually employed in
185 the performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in
186 the revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained
187 by the Statewide Elections Management System as required in
188 subsection (1) of this section:

189 (a) In counties having less than fifteen thousand
190 (15,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
191 census, not more than fifty (50) days per year, with no more than
192 fifteen (15) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
193 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

194 (b) In counties having fifteen thousand (15,000)
195 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
196 less than thirty thousand (30,000) residents according to the
197 latest federal decennial census, not more than seventy-five (75)



198 days per year, with no more than twenty-five (25) additional days
199 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
200 occurring in any calendar year;

201 (c) In counties having thirty thousand (30,000)
202 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
203 less than seventy thousand (70,000) residents according to the
204 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred (100)
205 days per year, with no more than thirty-five (35) additional days
206 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)
207 occurring in any calendar year;

208 (d) In counties having seventy thousand (70,000)
209 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
210 less than ninety thousand (90,000) residents according to the
211 latest federal decennial census, not more than one hundred
212 twenty-five (125) days per year, with no more than forty-five (45)
213 additional days allowed for the conduct of each election in excess
214 of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

215 (e) In counties having ninety thousand (90,000)
216 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
217 less than one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) residents
218 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
219 one hundred fifty (150) days per year, with no more than
220 fifty-five (55) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
221 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;



222 (f) In counties having one hundred seventy thousand
223 (170,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
224 census but less than two hundred thousand (200,000) residents
225 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
226 one hundred seventy-five (175) days per year, with no more than
227 sixty-five (65) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
228 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

229 (g) In counties having two hundred thousand (200,000)
230 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but
231 less than two hundred twenty-five thousand (225,000) residents
232 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than
233 one hundred ninety (190) days per year, with no more than
234 seventy-five (75) additional days allowed for the conduct of each
235 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

236 (h) In counties having two hundred twenty-five thousand
237 (225,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
238 census but less than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000)
239 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not
240 more than two hundred fifteen (215) days per year, with no more
241 than eighty-five (85) additional days allowed for the conduct of
242 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

243 (i) In counties having two hundred fifty thousand
244 (250,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial
245 census but less than two hundred seventy-five thousand (275,000)
246 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not



247 more than two hundred thirty (230) days per year, with no more
248 than ninety-five (95) additional days allowed for the conduct of
249 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

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

256 (3) In addition to the number of days authorized in
257 subsection (2) of this section, the board of supervisors of a
258 county may authorize, in its discretion, the election
259 commissioners to receive a per diem in the amount provided for in
260 subsection (2) of this section, to be paid from the county general
261 fund, for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
262 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
263 performance of their duties in the conduct of an election or
264 actually employed in the performance of their duties for the
265 necessary time spent in the revision of the county voter roll as
266 electronically maintained by the Statewide Elections Management
267 System as required in subsection (1) of this section, not to
268 exceed five (5) days.

269 (4) (a) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
270 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten Dollars
271 (\$110.00), to be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed



272 ten (10) days for every day or period of no less than five (5)
273 hours accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in
274 the performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in
275 the revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained
276 by the Statewide Elections Management System before any special
277 election. For purposes of this paragraph, the regular special
278 election day shall not be considered a special election. The
279 annual limitations set forth in subsection (2) of this section
280 shall not apply to this paragraph.

281 (b) The election commissioners shall be entitled to
282 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Sixty-five Dollars
283 (\$165.00), to be paid from the county general fund, for the
284 performance of their duties on the day of any primary, runoff,
285 general or special election. The annual limitations set forth in
286 subsection (2) of this section shall apply to this paragraph.

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

295 (5) The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive
296 a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten Dollars (\$110.00), to



297 be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed fourteen (14)
298 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours
299 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the
300 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the
301 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by
302 the Statewide Elections Management System and in the conduct of a
303 runoff election following either a general or special election.

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

308 (7) In preparation for a municipal primary, runoff, general
309 or special election, the county registrar shall generate and
310 distribute the master voter roll and pollbooks from the Statewide
311 Elections Management System for the municipality located within
312 the county. The municipality shall pay the county registrar for
313 the actual cost of preparing and printing the municipal master
314 voter roll pollbooks. A municipality may secure "read only"
315 access to the Statewide Elections Management System and print its
316 own pollbooks using this information.

317 (8) County election commissioners who perform the duties of
318 an executive committee with regard to the conduct of a primary
319 election under a written agreement authorized by law to be entered
320 into with an executive committee shall receive per diem as
321 provided for in subsection (2) of this section. The days that



322 county election commissioners are employed in the conduct of a
323 primary election shall be treated the same as days county election
324 commissioners are employed in the conduct of other elections.

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

329 (10) Every election commissioner shall sign personally a
330 certification setting forth the number of hours actually worked in
331 the performance of the commissioner's official duties and for
332 which the commissioner seeks compensation. The certification must
333 be on a form as prescribed in this subsection. The commissioner's
334 signature is, as a matter of law, made under the commissioner's
335 oath of office and under penalties of perjury.

336 The certification form shall be as follows:

337 **COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER**

338 **PER DIEM CLAIM FORM**

339 NAME: _____ COUNTY: _____

340 ADDRESS: _____ DISTRICT: _____

341 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

	PURPOSE	APPLICABLE	ACTUAL	PER DIEM		
DATE	BEGINNING	ENDING	OF	MS CODE	HOURS	DAYS
WORKED	TIME	TIME	WORK	SECTION	WORKED	EARNED

345 _____

346 _____



347 _____

348 TOTAL NUMBER OF PER DIEM DAYS EARNED

349 EXCLUDING ELECTION DAYS _____

350 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$110.00

351 TOTAL NUMBER PER DIEM DAYS EARNED

352 FOR ELECTION DAYS _____

353 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$165.00

354 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PER DIEM CLAIMED \$ _____

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

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

360 Signed this the _____ day of _____, ____.

361 _____

362 Commissioner's Signature

363 When properly completed and signed, the certification must be
 364 filed with the clerk of the county board of supervisors before any
 365 payment may be made. The certification will be a public record
 366 available for inspection and reproduction immediately upon the
 367 oral or written request of any person.

368 Any person may contest the accuracy of the certification in
 369 any respect by notifying the chair of the commission, any member
 370 of the board of supervisors or the clerk of the board of
 371 supervisors of the contest at any time before or after payment is



372 made. If the contest is made before payment is made, no payment
373 shall be made as to the contested certificate until the contest is
374 finally disposed of. The person filing the contest shall be
375 entitled to a full hearing, and the clerk of the board of
376 supervisors shall issue subpoenas upon request of the contestor
377 compelling the attendance of witnesses and production of documents
378 and things. The contestor shall have the right to appeal de novo
379 to the circuit court of the involved county, which appeal must be
380 perfected within thirty (30) days from a final decision of the
381 commission, the clerk of the board of supervisors or the board of
382 supervisors, as the case may be.

383 Any contestor who successfully contests any certification
384 will be awarded all expenses incident to his or her contest,
385 together with reasonable attorney's fees, which will be awarded
386 upon petition to the chancery court of the involved county upon
387 final disposition of the contest before the election commission,
388 board of supervisors, clerk of the board of supervisors, or, in
389 case of an appeal, final disposition by the court. The
390 commissioner against whom the contest is decided shall be liable
391 for the payment of the expenses and attorney's fees, and the
392 county shall be jointly and severally liable for same.

393 (11) Any election commissioner who has not received a
394 certificate issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to Section
395 23-15-211 indicating that the election commissioner has received
396 the required elections seminar instruction and that the election



397 commissioner is fully qualified to conduct an election, shall not
398 receive any compensation authorized by this section or Section
399 23-15-239.

400 **SECTION 6.** Section 23-15-165, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
401 amended as follows:

402 23-15-165. (1) The Office of the Secretary of State, in
403 cooperation with the county registrars and election commissioners,
404 shall procure, implement and maintain an electronic information
405 processing system and programs capable of maintaining a
406 centralized database of all registered voters in the state. The
407 system shall encompass software and hardware, at both the state
408 and county level, software development training, conversion and
409 support and maintenance for the system. This system shall be
410 known as the "Statewide Elections Management System" and shall
411 constitute the official record of registered voters in every
412 county of the state.

413 (2) The Office of the Secretary of State shall develop and
414 implement the Statewide Elections Management System so that the
415 registrar and election commissioners of each county shall:

416 (a) Verify that an applicant that is registering to
417 vote in that county is not registered to vote in another county;

418 (b) Be notified automatically that a registered voter
419 in its county has registered to vote in another county;

420 (c) Receive regular reports of death, changes of
421 address and convictions for disenfranchising crimes, which cause a



422 voter to have his or her right to vote suspended, that apply to
423 voters registered in the county; * * *

424 (d) Receive regular reports of voters who have
425 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of his or her
426 conviction and automatically restore the voter's name into the
427 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and
428 the county's pollbooks; and

429 (* * *e) Retain all present functionality related to,
430 but not limited to, the use of voter roll data and to implement
431 such other functionality as the law requires to enhance the
432 maintenance of accurate county voter records and related jury
433 selection and redistricting programs.

434 (3) As a part of the procurement and implementation of the
435 system, the Office of the Secretary of State shall, with the
436 assistance of the advisory committee, procure services necessary
437 to convert current voter registration records in the counties into
438 a standard, industry accepted file format that can be used on the
439 Statewide Elections Management System. Thereafter, all official
440 voter information shall be maintained on the Statewide Elections
441 Management System. The standard industry accepted format of data
442 was reviewed and approved by a majority of the advisory committee
443 created in subsection (5) of this section after consultation with
444 the Circuit Clerks Association and the format may not be changed
445 without consulting the Circuit Clerks Association.



446 (4) The Secretary of State may, with the assistance of the
447 advisory committee, adopt rules and regulations necessary to
448 administer the Statewide Elections Management System. The rules
449 and regulations shall at least:

450 (a) Provide for the establishment and maintenance of a
451 centralized database for all voter registration information in the
452 state;

453 (b) Provide procedures for integrating data into the
454 centralized database;

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

459 (d) Provide the registrar or his or her designee or
460 other appropriate official, as the law may require, access to the
461 system at all times, including the ability to download copies of
462 the industry standard file, for all purposes related to their
463 official duties, including, but not limited to, exclusive access
464 for the purpose of printing all local pollbooks;

465 (e) Provide security and protection of all information
466 in the system and monitor the system to ensure that unauthorized
467 access is not allowed;

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



470 may require, to identify the precinct to which a voter should be
471 assigned; and

472 (g) Provide a procedure for phasing in or converting
473 existing manual and computerized voter registration systems in
474 counties to the Statewide Elections Management System.

475 (5) The Secretary of State established an advisory committee
476 to assist in developing system specifications, procurement,
477 implementation and maintenance of the Statewide Elections
478 Management System. The committee included two (2) representatives
479 from the Circuit Clerks Association, appointed by the association;
480 two (2) representatives from the Election Commissioners
481 Association of Mississippi, appointed by the association; one (1)
482 member of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors, or its
483 staff, appointed by the association; the Director of the Stennis
484 Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, or his or
485 her designee; the Executive Director of the Department of
486 Information Technology Services, or his or her designee; two (2)
487 persons knowledgeable about elections and information technology
488 appointed by the Secretary of State; and the Secretary of State,
489 who shall serve as the chair of the advisory committee.

490 (6) (a) Social security numbers, telephone numbers and date
491 of birth and age information in statewide, district, county and
492 municipal voter registration files shall be exempt from and shall
493 not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction
494 under the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983.



495 (b) Copies of statewide, district, county or municipal
496 voter registration files, excluding social security numbers,
497 telephone numbers and date of birth and age information, shall be
498 provided to any person in accordance with the Mississippi Public
499 Records Act of 1983 at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of
500 production.

501 **SECTION 7.** Section 97-39-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
502 brought forward as follows:

503 97-39-3. If any person shall fight a duel, or give or accept
504 a challenge to fight a duel, or knowingly carry or deliver such
505 challenge or the acceptance thereof, or be second to either party
506 to any duel, whether such act be done in the state or out of it,
507 or who shall go out of the state to fight a duel, or to assist in
508 the same as second, or to send, accept, or carry a challenge,
509 shall be disqualified from holding any office, be disenfranchised,
510 and incapable of holding or being elected to any post of honor,
511 profit or emolument, civil or military, under the constitution and
512 laws of this state; and the appointment of any such person to
513 office, as also all votes given to any such person, are illegal,
514 and none of the votes given to such person for any office shall be
515 taken or counted.

516 **SECTION 8.** Section 99-19-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
517 brought forward as follows:

518 99-19-37. (1) Any person who has lost the right of suffrage
519 by reason of conviction of crime and has not been pardoned



520 therefrom, who thereafter served honorably in any branch of the
521 Armed Forces of the United States during the periods of World War
522 I or World War II as hereinafter defined and shall have received
523 an honorable discharge, or release therefrom, shall by reason of
524 such honorable service, have the full right of suffrage restored,
525 provided, however, this does not apply to any one having an
526 unfinished or suspended sentence.

527 (2) For the purposes of this section the period of World War
528 I shall be from April 6, 1917 to December 1, 1918, and the period
529 of World War II shall be from December 7, 1941 to December 31,
530 1946.

531 (3) In order to have restored, and to exercise, the right of
532 franchise under the provisions of this section a person affected
533 hereby shall have his discharge, or release, from the Armed Forces
534 of the United States recorded in the office of the chancery clerk
535 of the county in which such person desires to exercise the right
536 of franchise and if such discharge, or release, appears to be an
537 honorable discharge, or release, and shows such person to have
538 served honorably during either of the periods stated in subsection
539 (2) of this section such person shall have the full right of
540 suffrage restored as though an act had been passed by the
541 Legislature in accordance with Section 253 of the Constitution of
542 the State of Mississippi restoring the right of suffrage to such
543 person.



544 **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
545 and after July 1, 2023.

