

By: Senator(s) Hickman, Simmons (12th),  
Blount

To: Elections;  
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2275

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 23-15-301, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO REQUIRE THAT THE STATE AND COUNTIES EQUALLY SHARE THE  
3 COST OF PROVIDING PREPAID POSTAGE ENVELOPES FOR MAIL-IN BALLOTS TO  
4 BE RETURNED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 23-15-301. All the expenses of printing the tickets or  
9 primary election ballots, for necessary stationery, and for paying  
10 the managers, clerks and returning officer of every primary  
11 election authorized by this chapter held in any county shall be  
12 paid by the board of supervisors of such county out of the general  
13 funds of the county, but such officers of primary elections shall  
14 receive only such compensation as is authorized by Section  
15 23-15-227 to be paid managers, clerks and returning officer for  
16 like services in holding elections thereunder. For expenses  
17 related to mail-in ballots, the State Board of Election  
18 Commissioners, as identified in Section 23-15-211, shall reimburse  
19 each county board, which performs the duties outlined in Section



20 23-15-263, for fifty percent (50%) of the cost of prepaid postage  
21 for mail-in ballot return envelopes provided to individuals voting  
22 by absentee ballot as authorized by Section 23-15-173. However,  
23 this section shall not apply to the expenses of a primary election  
24 held by any political party, which at either of the last two (2)  
25 preceding general elections for the office of Governor or either  
26 of the last two (2) preceding national elections for President of  
27 the United States, did not vote as many as twenty percent (20%) of  
28 the total votes cast in the entire state.

29 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
30 and after July 1, 2023.

