

By: Senator(s) Tate, Younger, Parks,
Caughman, Chism, McDaniel, Williams, Suber,
McLendon, Hill, Barrett, England, McCaughn,
Parker, Seymour

To: Elections

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2352

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-753, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PENALIZE ANY PERSON WHO FRAUDULENTLY REQUESTS OR SUBMITS AN
3 APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-753, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-753. (1) Any person who willfully, knowingly,
8 unlawfully and feloniously procures, seeks to procure, or seeks to
9 influence the vote of any person voting by absentee ballot, by the
10 payment of money, the promise of payment of money, or by the
11 delivery of any other item of value or promise to give the voter
12 any item of value, or by promising or giving the voter any favor
13 or reward in an effort to influence his vote, or any person who
14 aids, abets, assists, encourages, helps, or causes any person
15 voting an absentee ballot to violate any provision of law
16 pertaining to absentee voting, or any person who sells his vote
17 for money, favor, or reward, has been paid or promised money, a
18 reward, a favor or favors, or any other item of value, or any



19 person who fraudulently and knowingly requests or submits an
20 absentee ballot, or any person who shall willfully swear falsely
21 to any affidavit provided for in Sections 23-15-621 through
22 23-15-735, shall be guilty of the crime of "vote fraud" and, upon
23 conviction, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than Five
24 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars
25 (\$5,000.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for no more
26 than one (1) year, or by both fine and imprisonment, or by being
27 sentenced to the State Penitentiary for not less than one (1) year
28 nor more than five (5) years.

29 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person who pays or
30 compensates another person for assisting voters in marking their
31 absentee ballots to base the pay or compensation on the number of
32 absentee voters assisted or the number of absentee ballots cast by
33 persons who have received the assistance. Any person who violates
34 this section, upon conviction, shall * * * be fined not less than
35 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Five Thousand
36 Dollars (\$5,000.00), or imprisoned in the Penitentiary not less
37 than one (1) year nor more than five (5) years, or both.

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

