

By: Representative Scott

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 276

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, failure to  
100 comply with the provisions of Section 23-15-152, or other legal  
101 cause, that fact shall be noted in the Statewide Elections  
102 Management System and the voter's name shall be purged from the  
103 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and  
104 the county's pollbooks. Nothing in this section shall preclude  
105 the use of electronic pollbooks. A person who is otherwise a  
106 qualified elector under the provisions of Section 23-15-11 and has  
107 been convicted of vote fraud, of any crime listed in Section 241,  
108 Mississippi Constitution of 1890, or of any crime interpreted as  
109 disenfranchising in later Attorney General opinions, shall have  
110 his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction but shall have  
111 his or her right to vote automatically restored once he or she has  
112 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the conviction.  
113 Once the person has satisfied all of the sentencing requirements,  
114 the voter's name shall be automatically restored into the  
115 Statewide Elections Management System, the state's voter roll and  
116 the county's pollbooks.

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

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



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

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

145 23-15-153. (1) At least during the following times, the  
146 election commissioners shall meet at the office of the registrar  
147 or the office of the election commissioners to carefully revise



148 the county voter roll as electronically maintained by the  
149 Statewide Elections Management System and remove from the roll the  
150 names of all voters who have requested to be purged from the voter  
151 roll, died, received an adjudication of non compos mentis, been  
152 convicted of a disenfranchising crime and had his or her right to  
153 vote suspended, failed to comply with the provisions of Section  
154 23-15-152, or otherwise become disqualified as electors for any  
155 cause, and shall register the names of all persons who have duly  
156 applied to be registered but have been illegally denied  
157 registration:

158 (a) On the Tuesday after the second Monday in January  
159 1987 and every following year;

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

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

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

170 Except for the names of those voters who are duly qualified  
171 to vote in the election, no name shall be permitted to remain in  
172 the Statewide Elections Management System; however, no name shall



173 be purged from the Statewide Elections Management System based on  
174 a change in the residence of an elector except in accordance with  
175 procedures provided for by the National Voter Registration Act of  
176 1993 and as provided in Section 23-15-152. Except as otherwise  
177 provided by Section 23-15-573, no person shall vote at any  
178 election whose name is not in the county voter roll electronically  
179 maintained by the Statewide Elections Management System.

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

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

196 (b) In counties having fifteen thousand (15,000)  
197 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but





198 less than thirty thousand (30,000) residents according to the  
199 latest federal decennial census, not more than seventy-five (75)  
200 days per year, with no more than twenty-five (25) additional days  
201 allowed for the conduct of each election in excess of one (1)  
202 occurring in any calendar year;

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

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

217 (e) In counties having ninety thousand (90,000)  
218 residents according to the latest federal decennial census but  
219 less than one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) residents  
220 according to the latest federal decennial census, not more than  
221 one hundred fifty (150) days per year, with no more than



222 fifty-five (55) additional days allowed for the conduct of each  
223 election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

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

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

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

245 (i) In counties having two hundred fifty thousand  
246 (250,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial



247 census but less than two hundred seventy-five thousand (275,000)  
248 residents according to the latest federal decennial census, not  
249 more than two hundred thirty (230) days per year, with no more  
250 than ninety-five (95) additional days allowed for the conduct of  
251 each election in excess of one (1) occurring in any calendar year;

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

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



271           (4)   (a)   The election commissioners shall be entitled to  
272 receive a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten Dollars  
273 (\$110.00), to be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed  
274 ten (10) days for every day or period of no less than five (5)  
275 hours accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in  
276 the performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in  
277 the revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained  
278 by the Statewide Elections Management System before any special  
279 election. For purposes of this paragraph, the regular special  
280 election day shall not be considered a special election. The  
281 annual limitations set forth in subsection (2) of this section  
282 shall not apply to this paragraph.

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

289           (5)   The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive  
290 a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten Dollars (\$110.00), to  
291 be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed fourteen (14)  
292 days for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours  
293 accumulated over two (2) or more days actually employed in the  
294 performance of their duties for the necessary time spent in the  
295 revision of the county voter roll as electronically maintained by



296 the Statewide Elections Management System and in the conduct of a  
297 runoff election following either a general or special election.

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

302 (7) The election commissioners shall be entitled to receive  
303 a per diem in the amount of One Hundred Ten Dollars (\$110.00), to  
304 be paid from the county general fund, not to exceed five (5) days  
305 for every day or period of no less than five (5) hours accumulated  
306 over two (2) or more days for those days when the election  
307 commissioners shall be required to conduct an audit of an election  
308 as provided in Section 23-15-615.

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

318 (9) County election commissioners who perform the duties of  
319 an executive committee with regard to the conduct of a primary  
320 election under a written agreement authorized by law to be entered



321 into with an executive committee shall receive per diem as  
 322 provided for in subsection (2) of this section. The days that  
 323 county election commissioners are employed in the conduct of a  
 324 primary election shall be treated the same as days county election  
 325 commissioners are employed in the conduct of other elections.

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

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

337 The certification form shall be as follows:

338 **COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER**

339 **PER DIEM CLAIM FORM**

340 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

341 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

342 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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



346 \_\_\_\_\_  
347 \_\_\_\_\_  
348 \_\_\_\_\_

349 TOTAL NUMBER OF PER DIEM DAYS EARNED  
350 EXCLUDING ELECTION DAYS \_\_\_\_\_  
351 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$110.00  
352 TOTAL NUMBER PER DIEM DAYS EARNED  
353 FOR ELECTION DAYS \_\_\_\_\_  
354 PER DIEM RATE PER DAY EARNED X \$165.00  
355 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PER DIEM CLAIMED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

361 Signed this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.  
362 \_\_\_\_\_  
363 Commissioner's Signature

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

369 Any person may contest the accuracy of the certification in  
370 any respect by notifying the chair of the commission, any member



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

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

394 (12) Any election commissioner who has not received a  
395 certificate issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to Section





396 23-15-211 indicating that the election commissioner has received  
397 the required elections seminar instruction and that the election  
398 commissioner is fully qualified to conduct an election, shall not  
399 receive any compensation authorized by this section or Section  
400 23-15-239.

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

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

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



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

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

424 (c) Receive regular reports of death, changes of  
425 address and convictions for disenfranchising crimes, which cause a  
426 voter to have his or her right to vote suspended, that apply to  
427 voters registered in the county;

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

433 ( \* \* \*e) Retain all present functionality related to,  
434 but not limited to, the use of voter roll data and to implement  
435 such other functionality as the law requires to enhance the  
436 maintenance of accurate county voter records and related jury  
437 selection and redistricting programs; and

438 ( \* \* \*f) When evidence exists that a registered voter  
439 may not be a citizen of the United States as provided in Section  
440 23-15-15, send notification to the registrar of the location where  
441 the person is registered to vote.

442 (3) As a part of the procurement and implementation of the  
443 system, the Office of the Secretary of State shall, with the  
444 assistance of the advisory committee, procure services necessary



445 to convert current voter registration records in the counties into  
446 a standard, industry accepted file format that can be used on the  
447 Statewide Elections Management System. Thereafter, all official  
448 voter information shall be maintained on the Statewide Elections  
449 Management System. The standard industry accepted format of data  
450 was reviewed and approved by a majority of the advisory committee  
451 created in subsection (5) of this section after consultation with  
452 the Circuit Clerks Association and the format may not be changed  
453 without consulting the Circuit Clerks Association.

454 (4) The Secretary of State may, with the assistance of the  
455 advisory committee, adopt rules and regulations necessary to  
456 administer the Statewide Elections Management System. The rules  
457 and regulations shall at least:

458 (a) Provide for the establishment and maintenance of a  
459 centralized database for all voter registration information in the  
460 state;

461 (b) Provide procedures for integrating data into the  
462 centralized database;

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

467 (d) Provide the registrar or his or her designee or  
468 other appropriate official, as the law may require, access to the  
469 system at all times, including the ability to download copies of



470 the industry standard file, for all purposes related to their  
471 official duties, including, but not limited to, exclusive access  
472 for the purpose of printing all local pollbooks;

473 (e) Provide security and protection of all information  
474 in the system and monitor the system to ensure that unauthorized  
475 access is not allowed;

476 (f) Provide a procedure that will allow the registrar,  
477 or his or her designee or other appropriate official, as the law  
478 may require, to identify the precinct to which a voter should be  
479 assigned; and

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

483 (5) The Secretary of State established an advisory committee  
484 to assist in developing system specifications, procurement,  
485 implementation and maintenance of the Statewide Elections  
486 Management System. The committee included two (2) representatives  
487 from the Circuit Clerks Association, appointed by the association;  
488 two (2) representatives from the Election Commissioners  
489 Association of Mississippi, appointed by the association; one (1)  
490 member of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors, or its  
491 staff, appointed by the association; the Director of the Stennis  
492 Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, or his or  
493 her designee; the Executive Director of the Department of  
494 Information Technology Services, or his or her designee; two (2)



495 persons knowledgeable about elections and information technology  
496 appointed by the Secretary of State; and the Secretary of State,  
497 who shall serve as the chair of the advisory committee.

498 (6) (a) Social security numbers, telephone numbers, email  
499 addresses, and date of birth and age information in statewide,  
500 district, county and municipal voter registration files shall be  
501 exempt from and shall not be subject to inspection, examination,  
502 copying or reproduction under the Mississippi Public Records Act  
503 of 1983.

504 (b) Copies of statewide, district, county or municipal  
505 voter registration files, excluding social security numbers,  
506 telephone numbers, email addresses, and date of birth and age  
507 information, shall be provided to any person in accordance with  
508 the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983 at a cost not to exceed  
509 the actual cost of production.

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

512 97-39-3. If any person shall fight a duel, or give or accept  
513 a challenge to fight a duel, or knowingly carry or deliver such  
514 challenge or the acceptance thereof, or be second to either party  
515 to any duel, whether such act be done in the state or out of it,  
516 or who shall go out of the state to fight a duel, or to assist in  
517 the same as second, or to send, accept, or carry a challenge,  
518 shall be disqualified from holding any office, be disenfranchised,  
519 and incapable of holding or being elected to any post of honor,



520 profit or emolument, civil or military, under the constitution and  
521 laws of this state; and the appointment of any such person to  
522 office, as also all votes given to any such person, are illegal,  
523 and none of the votes given to such person for any office shall be  
524 taken or counted.

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

527         99-19-37. (1) Any person who has lost the right of suffrage  
528 by reason of conviction of crime and has not been pardoned  
529 therefrom, who thereafter served honorably in any branch of the  
530 Armed Forces of the United States during the periods of World War  
531 I or World War II as hereinafter defined and shall have received  
532 an honorable discharge, or release therefrom, shall by reason of  
533 such honorable service, have the full right of suffrage restored,  
534 provided, however, this does not apply to any one having an  
535 unfinished or suspended sentence.

536         (2) For the purposes of this section the period of World War  
537 I shall be from April 6, 1917 to December 1, 1918, and the period  
538 of World War II shall be from December 7, 1941 to December 31,  
539 1946.

540         (3) In order to have restored, and to exercise, the right of  
541 franchise under the provisions of this section a person affected  
542 hereby shall have his discharge, or release, from the Armed Forces  
543 of the United States recorded in the office of the chancery clerk  
544 of the county in which such person desires to exercise the right



545 of franchise and if such discharge, or release, appears to be an  
546 honorable discharge, or release, and shows such person to have  
547 served honorably during either of the periods stated in subsection  
548 (2) of this section such person shall have the full right of  
549 suffrage restored as though an act had been passed by the  
550 Legislature in accordance with Section 253 of the Constitution of  
551 the State of Mississippi restoring the right of suffrage to such  
552 person.

553           **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
554 and after July 1, 2024.

