

By: Representative Horan

To: Judiciary B

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 722

1 AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 9-7-1, 9-7-3, 9-7-5, 9-7-9,  
2 9-7-13, 9-7-15, 9-7-17, 9-7-19, 9-7-20, 9-7-21, 9-7-23, 9-7-25,  
3 9-7-27, 9-7-29, 9-7-30, 9-7-31, 9-7-32, 9-7-33, 9-7-34, 9-7-41,  
4 9-7-43, 9-7-45, 9-7-46, 9-7-47, 9-7-49, 9-7-53, 9-7-55, 9-7-57 AND  
5 9-7-63, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR CIRCUIT COURT  
6 JUDGES, DISTRICTS AND TERMS OF COURT FOR DISTRICTS ONE TO  
7 TWENTY-THREE, FOR PURPOSES OF AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-7-7,  
8 9-7-11, 9-7-14, 9-7-35, 9-7-37, 9-7-39, 9-7-42, 9-7-44, 9-7-51,  
9 9-7-54 AND 9-7-64, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY LANGUAGE  
10 IN PROVISIONS OF LAW FOR CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO BRING FORWARD  
11 SECTIONS 9-5-1, 9-5-3, 9-5-5, 9-5-9, 9-5-15, 9-5-17, 9-5-19,  
12 9-5-21, 9-5-22, 9-5-23, 9-5-27, 9-5-31, 9-5-33, 9-5-35, 9-5-37,  
13 9-5-39, 9-5-40, 9-5-41, 9-5-43, 9-5-45, 9-5-47, 9-5-49, 9-5-51,  
14 9-5-53, 9-5-54, 9-5-55 AND 9-5-57, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH  
15 PROVIDE FOR CHANCERY COURT JUDGES, DISTRICTS AND TERMS OF COURT  
16 FOR DISTRICTS ONE TO TWENTY; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-7, 9-5-11,  
17 9-5-13, 9-5-25, 9-5-29, 9-5-36, 9-5-38, 9-5-50 AND 9-5-58,  
18 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY LANGUAGE IN PROVISIONS OF LAW  
19 FOR CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS; TO CREATE NEW SECTIONS 9-5-60 AND  
20 9-5-62, WHICH CREATE THE TWENTY-FIRST CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO  
21 BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 9-3-1 AND 23-15-993, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
22 1972, WHICH PROVIDE THE BOUNDARIES AND DESIGNATED POSITIONS FOR  
23 THE SUPREME COURT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 25-31-5, MISSISSIPPI  
24 CODE OF 1972, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED  
25 PURPOSES.

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

27 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

28 brought forward as follows:



29           9-7-1. A circuit judge shall be elected for and from each  
30 circuit court district and the listing of individual precincts  
31 shall be those precincts as they existed on October 1, 1990. He  
32 may hold court in any other district with the consent of the judge  
33 thereof, when in their opinion the public interest may require.  
34 The terms of all circuit judges hereafter elected shall begin on  
35 the first day of January 1931 and their terms of office shall  
36 continue for four (4) years. A circuit judge shall be a resident  
37 of the district in which he or she serves but shall not be  
38 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is  
39 divided into subdistricts.

40           **SECTION 2.** Section 9-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
41 brought forward as follows:

42           9-7-3. (1) The state is divided into an appropriate number  
43 of circuit court districts severally numbered and composed of the  
44 counties as set forth in the sections which follow. A court to be  
45 styled "The Circuit Court of the County of \_\_\_\_" shall be held in  
46 each county, and within each judicial district of a county having  
47 two (2) judicial districts, at least twice a year. Court shall be  
48 held in circuit court districts consisting of a single county on  
49 the same dates state agencies and political subdivisions are open  
50 for business excluding legal holidays. The dates upon which terms  
51 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall  
52 continue in circuit court districts consisting of more than one  
53 (1) county shall be set by order of the circuit court judge in



54 accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section.  
55 A matter in court may extend past a term if the interest of  
56 justice so requires.

57 (2) An order establishing the commencement and continuation  
58 of terms of court for each of the counties within a circuit court  
59 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered  
60 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately  
61 preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to  
62 become effective. Notice of the dates upon which the terms of  
63 court shall commence and the number of days for which the terms  
64 shall continue in each of the counties within a circuit court  
65 district shall be posted in the office of the circuit clerk of  
66 each county within the district and mailed to the office of the  
67 Secretary of State for publication and distribution to all  
68 Mississippi Bar members. If an order is not timely entered, the  
69 terms of court for each of the counties within any circuit court  
70 district shall remain unchanged for the next calendar year. A  
71 certified copy of any order entered under the provisions of this  
72 subsection shall, immediately upon the entry thereof, be delivered  
73 to the clerk of the board of supervisors in each of the counties  
74 within the circuit court district.

75 (3) The number of judges in each circuit court district  
76 shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the following  
77 criteria:

78 (a) The population of the district;



- 79                   (b) The number of cases filed in the district;  
80                   (c) The case load of each judge in the district;  
81                   (d) The geographic area of the district;  
82                   (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the  
83 court personnel of the district; and  
84                   (f) Any other appropriate criteria.

85           (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi  
86 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine  
87 the appropriate:

- 88                   (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for  
89 applying the above criteria;  
90                   (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified  
91 data; and  
92                   (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.

93           (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of circuit  
94 judge, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the powers,  
95 duties and emoluments of those offices except that the judge who  
96 has been for the longest time continuously a judge of that court  
97 or, should no judge have served longer in office than the others,  
98 the judge who has been for the longest time a member of The  
99 Mississippi Bar, shall be the senior judge. The senior judge  
100 shall have the right to assign causes and dockets and to set terms  
101 in districts consisting of more than one (1) county. A circuit  
102 court judge shall have the right to assign criminal matters to  
103 county court as provided in Section 9-9-21.



104           **SECTION 3.** Section 9-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
105 brought forward as follows:

106           9-7-5. The First Circuit Court District is composed of the  
107 following counties:

- 108           (a) Alcorn County;
- 109           (b) Itawamba County;
- 110           (c) Lee County;
- 111           (d) Monroe County;
- 112           (e) Pontotoc County;
- 113           (f) Prentiss County; and
- 114           (g) Tishomingo County.

115           **SECTION 4.** Section 9-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
116 amended as follows:

117           9-7-7. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the First  
118 Circuit Court District.

119           (2) The four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
120 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
121 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", "Place Three" and "Place  
122 Four." The judge to fill Place One must reside in Alcorn,  
123 Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The judges to fill Place Two and  
124 Place Three must reside in Itawamba, Lee, Monroe or Pontotoc  
125 County. The judge to fill Place Four may be a resident of any  
126 county in the district. Election of the four (4) offices of judge  
127 shall be by election to be held in every county within the First  
128 Circuit Court District.



129           **SECTION 5.** Section 9-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
130 brought forward as follows:

131           9-7-9. The Second Circuit Court District is composed of the  
132 following counties:

- 133           (a) Hancock County;
- 134           (b) Harrison County; and
- 135           (c) Stone County.

136           **SECTION 6.** Section 9-7-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
137 amended as follows:

138           9-7-11. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the Second  
139 Circuit Court District.

140           (2) The four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
141 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
142 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", "Place Three" and "Place  
143 Four."

144           **SECTION 7.** Section 9-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
145 brought forward as follows:

146           9-7-13. The Third Circuit Court District is composed of the  
147 following counties:

- 148           (a) Benton County;
- 149           (b) Calhoun County;
- 150           (c) Chickasaw County;
- 151           (d) Lafayette County;
- 152           (e) Marshall County;
- 153           (f) Tippah County; and



154 (g) Union County.

155 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-7-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
156 amended as follows:

157 9-7-14. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the Third  
158 Circuit Court District.

159 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
160 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
161 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two" and "Place Three."

162 **SECTION 9.** Section 9-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
163 brought forward as follows:

164 9-7-15. (1) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be  
165 composed of the following counties:

- 166 (a) Leflore County;
- 167 (b) Sunflower County; and
- 168 (c) Washington County.

169 (2) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be divided into  
170 four (4) subdistricts as follows:

171 (a) Subdistrict 4-1 shall consist of the following  
172 precincts in the following counties:

173 (i) Leflore County: Minter City, North Greenwood,  
174 Money, Northeast Greenwood, Schlater, West Greenwood, Mississippi  
175 Valley State University and Southeast Greenwood Precincts; and

176 (ii) Sunflower County: Ruleville, Rome, Sunflower  
177 Plantation, Drew, Doddsville, Boyer-Linn, Fairview-Hale and  
178 Ruleville North Precincts.



179                   (b) Subdistrict 4-2 shall consist of the following  
180 precincts in the following counties:

181                   (i) Sunflower County: Indianola 1, Sunflower,  
182 Indianola 3 North, Indianola 3 South and Indianola 3 Northeast  
183 Precincts; and

184                   (ii) Washington County: Extension Building, Faith  
185 Lutheran Church, American Legion, Metcalfe City Hall, Elks Club,  
186 Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Light and Water Plant and  
187 Greenville Industrial College Precincts.

188                   (c) Subdistrict 4-3 shall consist of the following  
189 precincts in the following counties:

190                   (i) Leflore County: East Greenwood Sub-A, East  
191 Greenwood Sub-B, Central Greenwood, North Itta Bena, South Itta  
192 Bena, Southwest Greenwood, Rising Sun, Sidon, Morgan City,  
193 Swiftown and South Greenwood Precincts;

194                   (ii) Sunflower County: Moorhead, Inverness,  
195 Indianola 2 West and Indianola 2 East Precincts; and

196                   (iii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall,  
197 Hollandale City Hall, Darlove Baptist Church and Mangelardi  
198 Bourbon Store Precincts.

199                   (d) Subdistrict 4-4 shall consist of the following  
200 precincts in Washington County: St. James Episcopal Church,  
201 Swiftwater Baptist Church, Glen Allan Health Clinic, Italian Club,  
202 Ward's Recreation Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Avon





203 Health Center, Kapco Company, Brent Center, William Percy Library  
204 and Grace Methodist Church Precincts.

205 (3) The local contributions required for the maintenance of  
206 the Fourth Circuit Court District shall be paid on a pro rata  
207 basis each by Leflore, Sunflower and Washington Counties.

208 **SECTION 10.** Section 9-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
209 brought forward as follows:

210 9-7-17. There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the  
211 Fourth Circuit Court District. One (1) circuit judge shall be  
212 elected from each subdistrict.

213 **SECTION 11.** Section 9-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
214 brought forward as follows:

215 9-7-19. The Fifth Circuit Court District is composed of the  
216 following counties:

- 217 (a) Attala County;
- 218 (b) Carroll County;
- 219 (c) Choctaw County;
- 220 (d) Grenada County;
- 221 (e) Montgomery County;
- 222 (f) Webster County; and
- 223 (g) Winston County.

224 **SECTION 12.** Section 9-7-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
225 brought forward as follows:

226 9-7-20. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifth  
227 Circuit Court District.



228           (2) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
229 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
230 "Place One" and "Place Two."

231           **SECTION 13.** Section 9-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
232 brought forward as follows:

233           9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of  
234 the following counties:

- 235                   (a) Adams County;
- 236                   (b) Amite County;
- 237                   (c) Franklin County; and
- 238                   (d) Wilkinson County.

239           (2) The Sixth Circuit Court District shall be divided into  
240 two (2) subdistricts as follows:

241                   (a) Subdistrict 6-1 shall consist of Wilkinson County  
242 and the following precincts in the following counties:

243                           (i) Adams County: Airport, By-Pass Fire Station,  
244 Carpenter, Concord\*, Courthouse\*, Duncan Park\*, Foster Mound,  
245 Maryland\*, Northside School, Pine Ridge, Thompson and Washington\*;  
246 and

247                           (ii) Amite County: Ariel, Berwick, Crosby, East  
248 Centreville, East Gloster\*, Gloster\*, Homochitto, South Liberty\*  
249 and Street.

250                   (b) Subdistrict 6-2 shall consist of Franklin County  
251 and the following precincts in the following counties:



252 (i) Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont, Concord\*,  
253 Convention Center, Courthouse\*, Duncan Park\*, Kingston, Liberty  
254 Park, Maryland\*, Morgantown, Oakland, Palestine and Washington\*;  
255 and

256 (ii) Amite County: Amite River, East Fork, East  
257 Gloster\*, East Liberty, Gloster\*, Liberty, New Zion, Oneil,  
258 Riceville, Smithdale, South Liberty\*, Tangipahoa, Tickfaw, Walls  
259 and Zion Hills.

260 (3) There shall be two (2) judges for the Sixth Circuit  
261 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and  
262 distinct. One (1) judge shall be elected from each subdistrict.

263 **SECTION 14.** Section 9-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
264 brought forward as follows:

265 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be  
266 Hinds County.

267 (2) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be divided into  
268 four (4) subdistricts in Hinds County as follows:

269 (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of the following  
270 precincts in Hinds County: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33, 34,  
271 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92, 93, 96  
272 and 97.

273 (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of the following  
274 precincts in Hinds County: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27,  
275 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,  
276 Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.



277 (c) Subdistrict 7-3 shall consist of the following  
278 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,  
279 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 66,  
280 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 86, 89, and Jackson State.

281 (d) Subdistrict 7-4 shall consist of the following  
282 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram  
283 1, Byram 2, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2, Clinton 3,  
284 Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Dry Grove, Edwards, Learned, Old  
285 Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2, Spring Ridge, St. Thomas,  
286 Terry, Utica 1 and Utica 2.

287 **SECTION 15.** Section 9-7-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
288 brought forward as follows:

289 9-7-25. (1) There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the  
290 Seventh Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected  
291 from each subdistrict.

292 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the  
293 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them  
294 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First  
295 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior  
296 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as  
297 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes  
298 of the court.

299 **SECTION 16.** Section 9-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
300 brought forward as follows:



301 9-7-27. (1) The Eighth Circuit Court District is composed  
302 of the following counties:

- 303 (a) Leake County;
- 304 (b) Neshoba County;
- 305 (c) Newton County; and
- 306 (d) Scott County.

307 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Eighth Circuit  
308 Court District.

309 (3) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
310 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
311 "Place One" and "Place Two."

312 **SECTION 17.** Section 9-7-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
313 brought forward as follows:

314 9-7-29. (1) The Ninth Circuit Court District is composed of  
315 the following counties:

- 316 (a) Issaquena County;
- 317 (b) Sharkey County; and
- 318 (c) Warren County.

319 (2) The Ninth Circuit Court District shall be divided into  
320 two (2) subdistricts as follows:

321 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of Issaquena County,  
322 Sharkey County and the following precincts in Warren County: 3-61  
323 Store\*, American Legion Hall, Auditorium, Brunswick, Cedar Grove\*,  
324 Kings\*, Number 7 Fire Station\*, St. Aloysius and Vicksburg Junior  
325 High School\*.



326 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of the following  
327 precincts in Warren County: 3-61 Store\*, Beechwood, Bovina, Cedar  
328 Grove\*, Culkin, Elks Lodge, Goodrum, Jett, Kings\*, Moose Lodge,  
329 Number 7 Fire Station\*, Oak Ridge, Plumbers Hall, Redwood,  
330 Tingleville, Vicksburg Junior High School\*, YMCA and Yokena.

331 **SECTION 18.** Section 9-7-30, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
332 brought forward as follows:

333 9-7-30. There shall be two (2) judges for the Ninth Circuit  
334 Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each  
335 subdistrict.

336 **SECTION 19.** Section 9-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
337 brought forward as follows:

338 9-7-31. The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the  
339 following counties:

- 340 (a) Clarke County;  
341 (b) Kemper County;  
342 (c) Lauderdale County; and  
343 (d) Wayne County.

344 **SECTION 20.** Section 9-7-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
345 brought forward as follows:

346 9-7-32. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Tenth  
347 Circuit Court District.

348 (2) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
349 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
350 "Place One" and "Place Two."



351           **SECTION 21.** Section 9-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
352 brought forward as follows:

353           9-7-33. (1) The Eleventh Circuit Court District is composed  
354 of the following counties:

- 355                   (a) Bolivar County;
- 356                   (b) Coahoma County;
- 357                   (c) Quitman County; and
- 358                   (d) Tunica County.

359           (2) The Eleventh Circuit Court District shall be divided  
360 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

361                   (a) Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of the following  
362 precincts from the following counties:

363                           (i) Bolivar County: Benoit, Beulah, Boyle,  
364 Choctaw, Cleveland Courthouse, East Central Cleveland\*, East  
365 Cleveland\*, East Rosedale, Gunnison, Longshot, North Cleveland,  
366 Northwest Cleveland\*, Pace, Scott, Shaw, Skene, South Cleveland\*,  
367 Stringtown, West Central Cleveland, West Cleveland and West  
368 Rosedale; and

369                           (ii) Coahoma County: Bobo, Clarksdale 2-4\*,  
370 Clarksdale 5-4\*, Farrell\*, Rena Lara and Sherard\*.

371                   (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of the following  
372 precincts from the following counties:

373                           (i) Bolivar County: Cleveland Eastgate,  
374 Duncan/Alligator, East Central Cleveland\*, East Cleveland\*,



375 Merigold, Mound Bayou, Northwest Cleveland\*, Renova, Shelby, South  
376 Cleveland\* and Winstonville;

377 (ii) Coahoma County: Cagle Crossing, Clarksdale  
378 1-4\*, Clarksdale 3-3, Clarksdale 3-4, Clarksdale 4-2, Clarksdale  
379 4-3, Dublin and Roundaway; and

380 (iii) Quitman County: Belen\*, District 3 South\*,  
381 Lambert, Northwest Marks, Southwest Marks and West Lambert.

382 (c) Subdistricts 11-3 shall consist of Tunica County  
383 and the following precincts in the following counties:

384 (i) Coahoma County: Clarksdale 1-4\*, Clarksdale  
385 2-4\*, Clarksdale 5-4\*, Coahoma, Farrell\*, Friar's Point,  
386 Jonestown, Lula, Lyon and Sherard\*; and

387 (ii) Quitman County: Belen\*, Crenshaw, Crowder,  
388 Darling, District 3 North, District 3 South\* and Sledge.

389 **SECTION 22.** Section 9-7-34, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
390 brought forward as follows:

391 9-7-34. There shall be three (3) judges for the Eleventh  
392 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each  
393 subdistrict.

394 **SECTION 23.** Section 9-7-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
395 amended as follows:

396 9-7-35. (1) The Twelfth Circuit Court District is composed  
397 of the following counties:

398 (a) Forrest County; and

399 (b) Perry County.





400 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth Circuit  
401 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and  
402 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
403 only as "Place One" and "Place Two \* \* \*".

404 **SECTION 24.** Section 9-7-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
405 amended as follows:

406 9-7-37. (1) The Thirteenth Circuit Court District is  
407 composed of the following counties:

- 408 (a) Covington County;
- 409 (b) Jasper County;
- 410 (c) Simpson County; and
- 411 (d) Smith County.

412 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Thirteenth Circuit  
413 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and  
414 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
415 only as "Place One" and "Place Two \* \* \*".

416 **SECTION 25.** Section 9-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
417 amended as follows:

418 9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is  
419 composed of the following counties:

- 420 (a) Lincoln County;
- 421 (b) Pike County; and
- 422 (c) Walthall County.

423 (2) (a) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth  
424 Circuit Court District.



425 (b) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and  
426 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
427 only as "Place One" and "Place Two \* \* \*".

428 **SECTION 26.** Section 9-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
429 brought forward as follows:

430 9-7-41. The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is composed of  
431 the following counties:

- 432 (a) Jefferson Davis County;
- 433 (b) Lamar County;
- 434 (c) Lawrence County;
- 435 (d) Marion County; and
- 436 (e) Pearl River County.

437 **SECTION 27.** Section 9-7-42, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
438 amended as follows:

439 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the  
440 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.

441 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
442 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
443 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", and "Place Three \* \* \*".  
444 The judge to fill Place One must be a resident of Jefferson Davis,  
445 Lamar, Lawrence or Marion County. The judge to fill Place Two may  
446 be a resident of any county in the district. The judge to fill  
447 Place Three must be a resident of Pearl River County.

448 **SECTION 28.** Section 9-7-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
449 brought forward as follows:



450 9-7-43. The Sixteenth Circuit Court District is composed of  
451 the following counties:

- 452 (a) Clay County;
- 453 (b) Lowndes County;
- 454 (c) Noxubee County; and
- 455 (d) Oktibbeha County.

456 **SECTION 29.** Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
457 amended as follows:

458 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the  
459 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.

460 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
461 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
462 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two" and "Place Three \* \* \*". The judge  
463 to fill Place One must be a resident of Lowndes County. The judge  
464 to fill Place Two must be a resident of Oktibbeha County. The  
465 judge to fill Place Three must be a resident of either Clay or  
466 Noxubee County. Election of the three (3) offices of judge shall  
467 be by election to be held in every county within the Sixteenth  
468 Circuit Court District.

469 **SECTION 30.** Section 9-7-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
470 brought forward as follows:

471 **[Until January 1, 2023, this section shall read as follows:]**

472 9-7-45. The Seventeenth Circuit Court District shall be  
473 divided into two (2) subdistricts as follows:



474 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall be composed of DeSoto  
475 County; and

476 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall be composed of Panola  
477 County, Tallahatchie County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

478 **[From and after January 1, 2023, this section shall read as**  
479 **follows:]**

480 9-7-45. The Seventeenth Circuit Court District shall be  
481 composed of the following counties:

- 482 (a) Panola County;
- 483 (b) Tallahatchie County;
- 484 (c) Tate County; and
- 485 (d) Yalobusha County.

486 **SECTION 31.** Section 9-7-46, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
487 brought forward as follows:

488 9-7-46. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the  
489 Seventeenth Circuit Court District.

490 (2) For the purpose of appointment and election, the two (2)  
491 judgeships shall be separate and distinct, and be denominated as  
492 "Place One" and "Place Two."

493 **SECTION 32.** Section 9-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
494 brought forward as follows:

495 9-7-47. The Eighteenth Circuit Court District shall be Jones  
496 County.

497 **SECTION 33.** Section 9-7-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
498 brought forward as follows:



499 9-7-49. (1) The Nineteenth Circuit Court District is  
500 composed of the following counties:

- 501 (a) George County;
- 502 (b) Greene County; and
- 503 (c) Jackson County.

504 (2) The local contribution required for the maintenance of  
505 the Nineteenth Circuit Court District shall not exceed, as to  
506 George and Greene Counties, the amount of their present local  
507 contribution in their present respective circuit court districts,  
508 and any excess shall be paid by Jackson County.

509 **SECTION 34.** Section 9-7-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
510 amended as follows:

511 9-7-51. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the  
512 Nineteenth Circuit Court District. The three (3) judgeships shall  
513 be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of  
514 appointment and election only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two"  
515 and "Place Three."

516 (2) The senior judge of the Nineteenth Circuit Court  
517 District may divide the court of any county within the district  
518 into civil, criminal and appellate court divisions as a matter of  
519 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the  
520 court.

521 **SECTION 35.** Section 9-7-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
522 brought forward as follows:



523 9-7-53. The Twentieth Circuit Court District is composed of  
524 the following counties:

525 (a) Madison County; and

526 (b) Rankin County.

527 **SECTION 36.** Section 9-7-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
528 amended as follows:

529 9-7-54. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the  
530 Twentieth Circuit Court District.

531 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct  
532 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
533 "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two", and "Place Three \* \* \*". The  
534 judge to fill Place One must reside in Rankin County, the judge to  
535 fill Place Two must reside in Madison County, and the judge to  
536 fill Place Three may reside in either Madison or Rankin County.

537 **SECTION 37.** Section 9-7-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
538 brought forward as follows:

539 9-7-55. The Twenty-first Circuit Court District is composed  
540 of the following counties:

541 (a) Holmes County;

542 (b) Humphreys County; and

543 (c) Yazoo County.

544 **SECTION 38.** Section 9-7-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
545 brought forward as follows:

546 9-7-57. The Twenty-second Circuit Court District is composed  
547 of the following counties:



- 548 (a) Claiborne County;  
549 (b) Covich County; and  
550 (c) Jefferson County.

551 **SECTION 39.** Section 9-7-63, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
552 brought forward as follows:

553 9-7-63. The Twenty-third Circuit Court District shall be  
554 DeSoto County.

555 **SECTION 40.** Section 9-7-64, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
556 amended as follows:

557 9-7-64. (1) There shall be \* \* \* four (4) circuit judges  
558 for the Twenty-third Circuit Court District.

559 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the \* \* \*  
560 four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated  
561 as "Place One" \* \* \*, "Place Two" \* \* \*, "Place Three" and "Place  
562 Four".

563 **SECTION 41.** Section 9-5-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
564 brought forward as follows:

565 9-5-1. A chancellor shall be elected for and from each of  
566 the chancery court districts as provided in this chapter and the  
567 listing of individual precincts shall be those precincts as they  
568 existed on October 1, 1990. He shall hold court in any other  
569 district with the consent of the chancellor thereof when in their  
570 opinion the public interest may be thereby promoted. The terms of  
571 all chancellors elected at the regular election for the year 1930  
572 shall begin on the first day of January, 1931, and their terms of



573 office shall continue for four (4) years. A chancellor shall be a  
574 resident of the district in which he serves but shall not be  
575 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is  
576 divided into subdistricts.

577 **SECTION 42.** Section 9-5-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
578 brought forward as follows:

579 9-5-3. (1) The state shall be divided into an appropriate  
580 number of chancery court districts, severally numbered and  
581 composed of the counties as set forth in the sections which  
582 follow. A court to be styled "The Chancery Court of the County of  
583 \_\_\_\_" shall be held in each county, and within each judicial  
584 district of a county having two (2) judicial districts, at least  
585 twice a year. Court shall be held in chancery court districts  
586 consisting of a single county on the same dates state agencies and  
587 political subdivisions are open for business excluding legal  
588 holidays. The dates upon which terms shall commence and the  
589 number of days for which terms shall continue in chancery court  
590 districts consisting of more than one (1) county shall be set by  
591 order of the chancellor in accordance with the provisions of  
592 subsection (2) of this section. A matter in court may extend past  
593 a term if the interest of justice so requires.

594 (2) An order establishing the commencement and continuation  
595 of terms of court for each of the counties within a chancery court  
596 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered  
597 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately





598 preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to  
599 become effective. Notice of the dates upon which terms of court  
600 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall  
601 continue in each of the counties within a chancery court district  
602 shall be posted in the office of the chancery clerk of each county  
603 within the district and mailed to the office of the Secretary of  
604 State for publication and distribution to all Mississippi Bar  
605 members. If an order is not timely entered, the terms of court  
606 for each of the counties within the chancery court district shall  
607 remain unchanged for the next calendar year.

608 (3) The number of chancellorships for each chancery court  
609 district shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the  
610 following criteria:

- 611 (a) The population of the district;
- 612 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;
- 613 (c) The caseload of each chancellor in the district;
- 614 (d) The geographic area of the district;
- 615 (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the  
616 court personnel of the district; and
- 617 (f) Any other appropriate criteria.

618 (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi  
619 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine  
620 the appropriate:

- 621 (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for  
622 applying the above criteria;



623 (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified  
624 data; and

625 (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.

626 (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of  
627 chancellor, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the  
628 powers, duties and emoluments of those offices except that the  
629 chancellor who has been for the longest time continuously a  
630 chancellor of that court or, should no chancellor have served  
631 longer in office than the others, the chancellor who has been for  
632 the longest time a member of The Mississippi Bar shall be the  
633 senior chancellor. The senior chancellor shall have the right to  
634 assign causes and dockets and to set terms in districts consisting  
635 of more than one (1) county.

636 **SECTION 43.** Section 9-5-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
637 brought forward as follows:

638 9-5-5. The First Chancery Court District is composed of the  
639 following counties:

- 640 (a) Alcorn County;
- 641 (b) Itawamba County;
- 642 (c) Lee County;
- 643 (d) Monroe County;
- 644 (e) Pontotoc County;
- 645 (f) Prentiss County;
- 646 (g) Tishomingo County; and
- 647 (h) Union County.



648           **SECTION 44.** Section 9-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
649 amended as follows:

650           9-5-7. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the  
651 First Chancery Court District.

652           (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and  
653 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
654 only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", "Place Three" and  
655 "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One must be a resident  
656 of Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The chancellors to fill  
657 Place Two and Place Three must reside in Itawamba, Lee, Monroe,  
658 Pontotoc or Union County. The chancellor to fill Place Four may  
659 be a resident of any county in the district. Election of the four  
660 (4) offices of chancellor shall be by election to be held in every  
661 county within the First Chancery Court District.

662           **SECTION 45.** Section 9-5-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
663 brought forward as follows:

664           9-5-9. The Second Chancery Court District is composed of the  
665 following counties:

- 666           (a) Jasper County;
- 667           (b) Newton County; and
- 668           (c) Scott County.

669           **SECTION 46.** Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
670 amended as follows:

671           [ Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]



672 9-5-11. (1) The Third Chancery Court District is composed  
673 of the following counties:

- 674 (a) DeSoto County;
- 675 (b) Grenada County;
- 676 (c) Montgomery County;
- 677 (d) Panola County;
- 678 (e) Tate County; and
- 679 (f) Yalobusha County.

680 (2) The Third Chancery Court District shall be divided into  
681 two (2) subdistricts as follows:

- 682 (a) Subdistrict 3-1 shall consist of DeSoto County.
- 683 (b) Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Grenada County,  
684 Montgomery County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha  
685 County.

686 **[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as**  
687 **follows:]**

688 9-5-11. (1) The Third Chancery Court District is composed  
689 of the following counties:

- 690 (a) Grenada County;
- 691 (b) Montgomery County;
- 692 (c) Panola County;
- 693 (d) Tate County; and
- 694 (e) Yalobusha County.

695 (2) The Third Chancery Court District shall be divided into  
696 two (2) subdistricts as follows:



697           (a) Subdistrict 3-1 shall consist of Grenada County,  
698 Montgomery County and Yalobusha County.

699           (b) Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Panola County and  
700 Tate County.

701           **SECTION 47.** Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
702 amended as follows:

703           **[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]**

704           9-5-13. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
705 Third Chancery Court District.

706           (2) (a) The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected  
707 from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2  
708 shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola  
709 County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

710           (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the three  
711 (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. The  
712 chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated only as  
713 "Place One \* \* \*", and the chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2  
714 shall be denominated only as "Place Two" and "Place Three \* \* \*".

715           **[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as**  
716 **follows:]**

717           9-5-13. (1) There shall be \* \* \* two (2) chancellors for  
718 the Third Chancery Court District.

719           (2) (a) The \* \* \* one (1) chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1  
720 shall be elected from \* \* \* Grenada County, Montgomery County or  
721 Yalobusha County. The \* \* \* one (1) chancellor of Subdistrict 3-2



722 shall be elected from \* \* \* Panola County \* \* \* or Tate  
723 County \* \* \*.

724 (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the \* \* \*  
725 two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and  
726 denominated as "Place One \* \* \*" and "Place Two \* \* \*" \* \* \*.  
727 The \* \* \* chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated  
728 only as "Place One" \* \* \* and the \* \* \* chancellorship in  
729 Subdistrict 3-2 shall be denominated only as "Place Two" \* \* \*.

730 **SECTION 48.** Section 9-5-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
731 brought forward as follows:

732 9-5-15. (1) The Fourth Chancery Court District is composed  
733 of the following counties:

- 734 (a) Amite County;  
735 (b) Franklin County;  
736 (c) Pike County; and  
737 (d) Walthall County.

738 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fourth  
739 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be  
740 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment  
741 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

742 **SECTION 49.** Section 9-5-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
743 brought forward as follows:

744 9-5-17. (1) The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed  
745 of Hinds County.



746 (2) The Fifth Chancery Court District shall be divided into  
747 the following four (4) subdistricts:

748 (a) Subdistrict 5-1 shall consist of the following  
749 precincts in Hinds County: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33, 34,  
750 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92, 93, 96  
751 and 97.

752 (b) Subdistrict 5-2 shall consist of the following  
753 precincts in Hinds County: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27,  
754 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,  
755 Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.

756 (c) Subdistrict 5-3 shall consist of the following  
757 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,  
758 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 66,  
759 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 86, 89 and Jackson State.

760 (d) Subdistrict 5-4 shall consist of the following  
761 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram  
762 1, Byram 2, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2, Clinton 3,  
763 Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Dry Grove, Edwards, Learned, Old  
764 Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2, Spring Ridge, St. Thomas,  
765 Terry, Utica 1 and Utica 2.

766 **SECTION 50.** Section 9-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
767 brought forward as follows:

768 9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the  
769 Fifth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be  
770 elected from each subdistrict.



771           (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the  
772 powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon  
773 them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the  
774 First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the  
775 senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a  
776 matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of  
777 the court.

778           **SECTION 51.** Section 9-5-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
779 brought forward as follows:

780           9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the  
781 following counties:

- 782           (a) Attala County;
- 783           (b) Carroll County;
- 784           (c) Choctaw County;
- 785           (d) Kemper County;
- 786           (e) Neshoba County; and
- 787           (f) Winston County.

788           **SECTION 52.** Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
789 brought forward as follows:

790           9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the  
791 Sixth Chancery Court District.

792           (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and  
793 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
794 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."





795           **SECTION 53.** Section 9-5-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
796 brought forward as follows:

797           9-5-23. (1) The Seventh Chancery Court District is composed  
798 of the following counties:

- 799                   (a) Bolivar County;
- 800                   (b) Coahoma County;
- 801                   (c) Leflore County;
- 802                   (d) Quitman County;
- 803                   (e) Tallahatchie County; and
- 804                   (f) Tunica County.

805           (2) The Seventh Chancery Court District shall be divided  
806 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

- 807                   (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of Bolivar County and  
808 Coahoma County;
- 809                   (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of Leflore County,  
810 Quitman County, Tallahatchie County and Tunica County.

811           **SECTION 54.** Section 9-5-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
812 amended as follows:

813           9-5-25. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Seventh  
814 Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be  
815 separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from  
816 Subdistrict 7-1 and shall be denominated for purposes of  
817 appointment and election only as "Place One \* \* \*", and two (2)  
818 chancellors shall be elected from Subdistrict 7-2 and shall be



819 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
820 "Place Two" and "Place Three \* \* \*".

821 **SECTION 55.** Section 9-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
822 brought forward as follows:

823 9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of  
824 the following counties:

- 825 (a) Hancock County;
- 826 (b) Harrison County; and
- 827 (c) Stone County.

828 **SECTION 56.** Section 9-5-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
829 amended as follows:

830 9-5-29. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the  
831 Eighth Chancery Court District.

832 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and  
833 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
834 only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", "Place Three" and  
835 "Place Four."

836 (3) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the  
837 powers and duties of the chancellors other than as cast upon them  
838 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the  
839 Eighth Chancery Court District, in the discretion of the senior  
840 chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a matter of  
841 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the  
842 court.



843           **SECTION 57.** Section 9-5-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
844 brought forward as follows:

845           9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed  
846 of the following counties:

- 847           (a) Humphreys County;
- 848           (b) Issaquena County;
- 849           (c) Sharkey County;
- 850           (d) Sunflower County;
- 851           (e) Warren County; and
- 852           (f) Washington County.

853           (2) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be divided into  
854 three (3) subdistricts as follows:

855           (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of the following  
856 precincts in the following counties:

857           (i) Sunflower County: Boyer-Linn, Drew,  
858 Fairview-Hale, Indianola 2 East\*, Indianola 3 North\*, Indianola 3  
859 Northeast\*, Indianola 3 South\*, Rome, Ruleville, Ruleville North  
860 and Sunflower Plantation; and

861           (ii) Washington County: American Legion, Brent  
862 Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Darlove Baptist Church\*,  
863 Elks Club, Extension Building, Grace Methodist Church\*, Greenville  
864 Industrial College, Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Rotary  
865 Club, Metcalf City Hall and Potter House Church.

866           (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of Humphreys County  
867 and the following precincts in the following counties:



868 (i) Sunflower County: Doddsville, Indianola 2  
869 East\*, Indianola 2 West, Indianola 3 North\*, Indianola 3  
870 Northeast\*, Indianola 3 South\*, Indianola Southeast, Inverness,  
871 Moorhead, Sunflower 3 and Sunflower 4; and

872 (ii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall, Christ  
873 Wesleyan Methodist Church, Darlove Baptist Church\*, Glen Allan  
874 Health Clinic, Grace Methodist Church\*, Hollandale City Hall, St.  
875 James Episcopal Church, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Tampa Drive and  
876 Ward's Recreation Center.

877 (c) Subdistrict 9-3 shall consist of Issaquena County,  
878 Sharkey County and Warren County.

879 **SECTION 58.** Section 9-5-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
880 brought forward as follows:

881 9-5-33. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Ninth  
882 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from  
883 each subdistrict.

884 **SECTION 59.** Section 9-5-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
885 brought forward as follows:

886 9-5-35. The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the  
887 following counties:

- 888 (a) Forrest County;
- 889 (b) Lamar County;
- 890 (c) Marion County;
- 891 (d) Pearl River County; and
- 892 (e) Perry County.



893           **SECTION 60.** Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
894 amended as follows:

895           9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the  
896 Tenth Chancery Court District.

897           (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and  
898 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
899 only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two \* \* \*", "Place Three" and  
900 "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may  
901 be a resident of any county in the district. The chancellor to  
902 fill Place Two must be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or  
903 Perry County. The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a  
904 resident of Forrest County. Election of the four (4) offices of  
905 chancellor shall be by election to be held in every county within  
906 the Tenth Chancery Court District.

907           **SECTION 61.** Section 9-5-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
908 brought forward as follows:

909           9-5-37. (1) The Eleventh Chancery Court District is  
910 composed of the following counties:

- 911           (a) Holmes County;
- 912           (b) Leake County;
- 913           (c) Madison County; and
- 914           (d) Yazoo County.

915           (2) The Eleventh Chancery Court District shall be divided  
916 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:



917 (a) Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of Holmes County,  
918 Yazoo County and the following precincts in Madison County: Bible  
919 Church, Canton 4, Canton 5, Flora, Madison County Baptist Family  
920 Life Center, Magnolia Heights and Smith School;

921 (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of Leake County and  
922 the following precincts in Madison County: Bear Creek, Camden,  
923 Cameron, Canton 1, Canton 2, Canton 3, Canton 7, Cedar Grove,  
924 Cobblestone, Couparle, Gluckstadt, Highland Colony Baptist Church,  
925 Liberty, Lorman/Cavalier, Luther Branson School, Madison 1,  
926 Madison 2, Madison 3, Main Harbor, New Industrial Park, North Bay,  
927 Ratliff Ferry, Ridgeland 1, Ridgeland 3, Ridgeland 4, Ridgeland  
928 First Methodist Church, Ridgeland Tennis Center, Sharon,  
929 Sunnybrook, Tougaloo, Trace Harbor, Victory Baptist Church,  
930 Virililia, Whisper Lake and Yandell Road.

931 **SECTION 62.** Section 9-5-38, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
932 amended as follows:

933 9-5-38. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
934 Eleventh Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships  
935 shall be separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be  
936 elected from Subdistrict 11-1 and denominated for purposes of  
937 appointment and election only as "Place One \* \* \*", one (1)  
938 chancellor shall be elected from Subdistrict 11-2 and denominated  
939 for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place  
940 Two \* \* \*", and one (1) chancellor shall be elected at large from



941 the entire Eleventh Chancery Court District and denominated for  
942 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place Three \* \* \*".

943 **SECTION 63.** Section 9-5-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
944 brought forward as follows:

945 9-5-39. The Twelfth Chancery Court District is composed of  
946 the following counties:

- 947 (a) Clarke County; and  
948 (b) Lauderdale County.

949 **SECTION 64.** Section 9-5-40, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
950 brought forward as follows:

951 9-5-40. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth  
952 Chancery Court District.

953 (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and  
954 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
955 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

956 **SECTION 65.** Section 9-5-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
957 brought forward as follows:

958 9-5-41. (1) The Thirteenth Chancery Court District is  
959 composed of the following counties:

- 960 (a) Covington County;  
961 (b) Jefferson Davis County;  
962 (c) Lawrence County;  
963 (d) Simpson County; and  
964 (e) Smith County.



965 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Thirteenth  
966 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be  
967 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment  
968 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

969 **SECTION 66.** Section 9-5-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
970 brought forward as follows:

971 9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is  
972 composed of the following counties:

- 973 (a) Chickasaw County;
- 974 (b) Clay County;
- 975 (c) Lowndes County;
- 976 (d) Noxubee County;
- 977 (e) Oktibbeha County; and
- 978 (f) Webster County.

979 (2) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be divided  
980 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

- 981 (a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County,  
982 Webster County and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County:  
983 Bell Schoolhouse\*, Bradley, Center Grove, Central Starkville\*,  
984 Craig Springs, Double Springs, East Starkville\*, Gillespie Street  
985 Center\*, Maben, North Adaton, North Longview, North Starkville 2\*,  
986 North Starkville 3, Northeast Starkville, Self Creek, South  
987 Adaton, South Longview, South Starkville\*, Sturgis and West  
988 Starkville\*.





989 (b) Subdistrict 14-2 shall consist of the following  
990 precincts in the following counties:

991 (i) Clay County: Cedar Bluff, Central West Point,  
992 East West Point, Siloam, South West Point and Vinton; and

993 (ii) Lowndes County: Air Base A, Air Base B, Air  
994 Base C, Air Base D, Air Base E, Brandon A, Brandon B, Brandon C,  
995 Brandon D, Caledonia, Columbus High School A, Columbus High School  
996 B, Columbus High School C, Columbus High School D, Dowdle Gas  
997 Training Center B, Fairgrounds C, Fairgrounds E, Fairgrounds F,  
998 Hunt C, Lee Middle School, Mitchell A, New Hope A, New Hope B, New  
999 Hope C, New Hope D, New Hope E, Rural Hill A, Rural Hill B, Rural  
1000 Hill C, Sale A, Sale B, Sale C, Steens A, Steens B, Steens C,  
1001 Trinity B, Union Academy B, Union Academy C and University A.

1002 (c) Subdistrict 14-3 shall consist of Noxubee County  
1003 and the following precincts in the following counties:

1004 (i) Clay County: Cairo, Caradine, North West  
1005 Point, Pheba, Pine Bluff, Tibbee, Union Star and West West Point;

1006 (ii) Lowndes County: Artesia, Coleman A, Coleman  
1007 B, Crawford A, Fairgrounds A, Fairgrounds B, Fairgrounds D,  
1008 Fairgrounds G, Hunt A, Hunt B, Mitchell B, New Hope F, Plum Grove  
1009 A, Plum Grove B, Plum Grove C, Propst Park Community Hut, Trinity  
1010 A, Union Academy A, University B, West Lowndes A and West Lowndes  
1011 B; and

1012 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Bell Schoolhouse\*,  
1013 Central Starkville\*, East Starkville\*, Gillespie Street Center\*,



1014 Hickory Grove, North Starkville 2\*, Oktoc, Osborn, Sessums, South  
1015 Starkville\*, Southeast Oktibbeha and West Starkville\*.

1016 **SECTION 67.** Section 9-5-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1017 brought forward as follows:

1018 9-5-45. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
1019 Fourteenth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be  
1020 elected from each subdistrict.

1021 **SECTION 68.** Section 9-5-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1022 brought forward as follows:

1023 9-5-47. The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is composed of  
1024 the following counties:

- 1025 (a) Covich County; and
- 1026 (b) Lincoln County.

1027 **SECTION 69.** Section 9-5-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1028 brought forward as follows:

1029 9-5-49. The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of  
1030 the following counties:

- 1031 (a) George County;
- 1032 (b) Greene County; and
- 1033 (c) Jackson County.

1034 **SECTION 70.** Section 9-5-50, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1035 amended as follows:

1036 9-5-50. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
1037 Sixteenth Chancery Court District.



1038 (2) The three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and  
1039 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
1040 only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two" and "Place Three."

1041 **SECTION 71.** Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1042 brought forward as follows:

1043 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is  
1044 composed of the following counties:

- 1045 (a) Adams County;
- 1046 (b) Claiborne County;
- 1047 (c) Jefferson County; and
- 1048 (d) Wilkinson County.

1049 (2) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District shall be divided  
1050 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

1051 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall consist of Claiborne County,  
1052 Jefferson County, and the following precincts in Adams County:  
1053 Airport Carpenter\*, Convention Center\*, Foster Mound, Maryland\*,  
1054 Northside School, Palestine, Pine Ridge, Thompson and Washington\*.

1055 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Wilkinson County  
1056 and the following precincts in Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont,  
1057 By-Pass Fire Station, Carpenter\*, Concord, Convention Center\*,  
1058 Courthouse, Duncan Park, Kingston, Liberty Park, Maryland\*,  
1059 Morgantown, Oakland and Washington\*.

1060 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth  
1061 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from  
1062 each subdistrict.



1063           **SECTION 72.** Section 9-5-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1064 brought forward as follows:

1065           9-5-53. The Eighteenth Chancery Court District is composed  
1066 of the following counties:

- 1067           (a) Benton County;
- 1068           (b) Calhoun County;
- 1069           (c) Lafayette County;
- 1070           (d) Marshall County; and
- 1071           (e) Tippah County.

1072           **SECTION 73.** Section 9-5-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1073 brought forward as follows:

1074           9-5-54. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the  
1075 Eighteenth Chancery Court District.

1076           (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and  
1077 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
1078 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

1079           **SECTION 74.** Section 9-5-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1080 brought forward as follows:

1081           9-5-55. The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is composed  
1082 of the following counties:

- 1083           (a) Jones County; and
- 1084           (b) Wayne County.

1085           **SECTION 75.** Section 9-5-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1086 brought forward as follows:



1087 9-5-57. The Twentieth Chancery Court District shall be  
1088 Rankin County.

1089 **SECTION 76.** The following shall be codified as Section  
1090 9-5-60, Mississippi Code of 1972:

1091 9-5-60. The Twenty-first Chancery Court District shall be  
1092 DeSoto County.

1093 **SECTION 77.** The following shall be codified as Section  
1094 9-5-62, Mississippi Code of 1972:

1095 9-5-62. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
1096 Twenty-first Chancery Court District.

1097 (2) For purposes of appointment and election, the two (2)  
1098 judgeships shall be separate and district and denominated as  
1099 "Place One", "Place Two" and "Place Three".

1100 **SECTION 78.** Section 9-5-58, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1101 amended as follows:

1102 9-5-58. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
1103 Twentieth Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment  
1104 and election the three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and  
1105 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
1106 only as "Place One \* \* \*", "Place Two", and "Place Three \* \* \*".

1107 **SECTION 79.** Section 9-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1108 brought forward as follows:

1109 9-3-1. The state shall be divided into three (3) Supreme  
1110 Court districts, as follows, to wit:



1111           The counties of Bolivar, Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Holmes,  
1112 Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake,  
1113 Madison, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Rankin, Scott, Sharkey,  
1114 Sunflower, Warren, Washington and Yazoo shall constitute the First  
1115 District.

1116           The counties of Adams, Amite, Clarke, Covington, Forrest,  
1117 Franklin, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper,  
1118 Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Pearl  
1119 River, Perry, Pike, Simpson, Smith, Stone, Walthall, Wayne, and  
1120 Wilkinson shall constitute the Second District.

1121           The counties of Alcorn, Attala, Benton, Calhoun, Carroll,  
1122 Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Itawamba,  
1123 Lafayette, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery,  
1124 Oktibbeha, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Quitman, Tallahatchie,  
1125 Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Tunica, Union, Webster, Winston and  
1126 Yalobusha, shall constitute the Third District.

1127           **SECTION 80.** Section 23-15-993, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1128 brought forward as follows:

1129           23-15-993. For the purpose of all elections, each of the  
1130 nine (9) judgeships of the Supreme Court shall be considered a  
1131 separate office. The three (3) offices in each of the three (3)  
1132 Supreme Court districts shall be designated Position Number 1,  
1133 Position Number 2 and Position Number 3, and in qualifying for  
1134 office as a candidate for any office of judge of the Supreme Court  
1135 each candidate shall state the position number of the office to



1136 which he aspires and the regular election ballots shall so  
1137 indicate. In Supreme Court District Number 1: Position Number 1  
1138 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 1966;  
1139 Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term ends in  
1140 January 1965; and Position Number 3 shall be that office for which  
1141 the term ends in January 1969. In District Number 2: Position  
1142 Number 1 shall be that office for which the term ends in January  
1143 1972; Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term  
1144 ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3 shall be for that  
1145 office for which the term ends in January 1973. In District  
1146 Number 3: Position Number 1 shall be that office for which the  
1147 term ends in January 1969; Position Number 2 shall be that office  
1148 for which the term ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3  
1149 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 1965.

1150 **SECTION 81.** Section 25-31-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1151 brought forward as follows:

1152 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal  
1153 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court  
1154 districts:

1155 (a) First Circuit Court District..... ten (10)  
1156 legal assistants.

1157 (b) Second Circuit Court District..... eleven (11)  
1158 legal assistants.

1159 (c) Third Circuit Court District..... six (6)  
1160 legal assistants.



1161 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....six (6)  
1162 legal assistants.  
1163 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
1164 legal assistants.  
1165 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... three (3)  
1166 legal assistants.  
1167 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... twelve (12)  
1168 legal assistants. Effective July 1, 2023, through July 1, 2025,  
1169 the Seventh Circuit Court District shall have fourteen (14) legal  
1170 assistants.  
1171 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
1172 legal assistants.  
1173 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
1174 legal assistants.  
1175 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
1176 legal assistants.  
1177 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
1178 legal assistants.  
1179 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
1180 legal assistants.  
1181 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....four (4)  
1182 legal assistants.  
1183 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)  
1184 legal assistants.





1185 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)  
1186 legal assistants.

1187 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)  
1188 legal assistants.

1189 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
1190 legal assistants.

1191 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1192 legal assistants.

1193 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)  
1194 legal assistants.

1195 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)  
1196 legal assistants.

1197 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
1198 legal assistants.

1199 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... three (3)  
1200 legal assistants.

1201 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District ..... five (5)  
1202 legal assistants.

1203 (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant  
1204 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of  
1205 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following  
1206 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the  
1207 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe  
1208 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following  
1209 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one



1210 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a  
1211 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses  
1212 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such  
1213 district pursuant to this subsection:

1214 (a) First Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1215 legal assistants.

1216 (b) Second Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1217 legal assistants.

1218 (c) Third Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1219 legal assistants.

1220 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1221 legal assistants.

1222 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1223 legal assistants.

1224 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1225 legal assistants.

1226 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1227 legal assistants.

1228 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1229 legal assistants.

1230 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1231 legal assistants.

1232 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1233 legal assistants.



1234           (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1235 legal assistants.  
1236           (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1237 legal assistants.  
1238           (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1239 legal assistants.  
1240           (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1241 legal assistants.  
1242           (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1243 legal assistants.  
1244           (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1245 legal assistants.  
1246           (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1247 legal assistants.  
1248           (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1249 legal assistants.  
1250           (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1251 legal assistants.  
1252           (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1253 legal assistants.  
1254           (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1255 legal assistants.  
1256           (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1257 legal assistants.



1258                   (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
1259 legal assistants.

1260           (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a  
1261 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits  
1262 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the  
1263 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to  
1264 this section.

1265           (4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may  
1266 employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or  
1267 both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal  
1268 assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators  
1269 authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the  
1270 district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any  
1271 source shall include, but is not limited to, office generated  
1272 funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a  
1273 municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds,  
1274 private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal  
1275 Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be  
1276 expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of  
1277 the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the  
1278 positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney  
1279 accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department  
1280 of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate  
1281 counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds  
1282 shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as



1283 state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal  
1284 assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of  
1285 supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district  
1286 the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and  
1287 fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the  
1288 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such  
1289 information to the Department of Finance and Administration which  
1290 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget  
1291 Office.

1292 (5) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the  
1293 duties of a legal assistant regardless of the source of funding  
1294 for such legal assistants.

1295 **SECTION 82.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
1296 and after July 1, 2024 and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2024.

