

By: Representative Horan

To: Judiciary B

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

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

25 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
26 brought forward as follows:

27 9-7-1. A circuit judge shall be elected for and from each
28 circuit court district and the listing of individual precincts



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

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

40 9-7-3. (1) The state is divided into an appropriate number
41 of circuit court districts severally numbered and composed of the
42 counties as set forth in the sections which follow. A court to be
43 styled "The Circuit Court of the County of ____" shall be held in
44 each county, and within each judicial district of a county having
45 two (2) judicial districts, at least twice a year. Court shall be
46 held in circuit court districts consisting of a single county on
47 the same dates state agencies and political subdivisions are open
48 for business excluding legal holidays. The dates upon which terms
49 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall
50 continue in circuit court districts consisting of more than one
51 (1) county shall be set by order of the circuit court judge in
52 accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section.



53 A matter in court may extend past a term if the interest of
54 justice so requires.

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

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

- 76 (a) The population of the district;
- 77 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;



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

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

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

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



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

104 9-7-5. The First Circuit Court District is composed of the
105 following counties:

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

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

115 9-7-7. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the First
116 Circuit Court District.

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



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

129 9-7-9. The Second Circuit Court District is composed of the
130 following counties:

- 131 (a) Hancock County;
- 132 (b) Harrison County; and
- 133 (c) Stone County.

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

136 9-7-11. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the Second
137 Circuit Court District.

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

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

144 9-7-13. The Third Circuit Court District is composed of the
145 following counties:

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



152 (g) Union County.

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

155 9-7-14. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the Third
156 Circuit Court District.

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

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

162 9-7-15. (1) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be
163 composed of the following counties:

- 164 (a) Leflore County;
- 165 (b) Sunflower County; and
- 166 (c) Washington County.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



201 Health Center, Kapco Company, Brent Center, William Percy Library
202 and Grace Methodist Church Precincts.

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

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

208 9-7-17. There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
209 Fourth Circuit Court District. One (1) circuit judge shall be
210 elected from each subdistrict.

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

213 9-7-19. The Fifth Circuit Court District is composed of the
214 following counties:

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

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

224 9-7-20. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifth
225 Circuit Court District.



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

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

231 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of
232 the following counties:

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

263 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be
264 Hinds County.

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

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

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



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

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

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

287 9-7-25. (1) There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
288 Seventh Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected
289 from each subdistrict.

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

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



299 9-7-27. (1) The Eighth Circuit Court District is composed
300 of the following counties:

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

305 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Eighth Circuit
306 Court District.

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

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

312 9-7-29. (1) The Ninth Circuit Court District is composed of
313 the following counties:

- 314 (a) Issaquena County;
- 315 (b) Sharkey County; and
- 316 (c) Warren County.

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

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



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

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

331 9-7-30. There shall be two (2) judges for the Ninth Circuit
332 Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
333 subdistrict.

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

336 9-7-31. The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the
337 following counties:

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

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

344 9-7-32. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Tenth
345 Circuit Court District.

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



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

351 9-7-33. (1) The Eleventh Circuit Court District is composed
352 of the following counties:

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

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

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

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

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

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

371 (i) Bolivar County: Cleveland Eastgate,
372 Duncan/Alligator, East Central Cleveland*, East Cleveland*,



373 Merigold, Mound Bayou, Northwest Cleveland*, Renova, Shelby, South
374 Cleveland* and Winstonville;

375 (ii) Coahoma County: Cagle Crossing, Clarksdale
376 1-4*, Clarksdale 3-3, Clarksdale 3-4, Clarksdale 4-2, Clarksdale
377 4-3, Dublin and Roundaway; and

378 (iii) Quitman County: Belen*, District 3 South*,
379 Lambert, Northwest Marks, Southwest Marks and West Lambert.

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

382 (i) Coahoma County: Clarksdale 1-4*, Clarksdale
383 2-4*, Clarksdale 5-4*, Coahoma, Farrell*, Friar's Point,
384 Jonestown, Lula, Lyon and Sherard*; and

385 (ii) Quitman County: Belen*, Crenshaw, Crowder,
386 Darling, District 3 North, District 3 South* and Sledge.

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

389 9-7-34. There shall be three (3) judges for the Eleventh
390 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
391 subdistrict.

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

394 9-7-35. (1) The Twelfth Circuit Court District is composed
395 of the following counties:

396 (a) Forrest County; and

397 (b) Perry County.



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

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

404 9-7-37. (1) The Thirteenth Circuit Court District is
405 composed of the following counties:

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

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

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

416 9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is
417 composed of the following counties:

- 418 (a) Lincoln County;
- 419 (b) Pike County; and
- 420 (c) Walthall County.

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



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

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

428 9-7-41. The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
429 the following counties:

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

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

437 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
438 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.

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

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



448 9-7-43. The Sixteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
449 the following counties:

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

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

456 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
457 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.

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

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

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

470 9-7-45. The Seventeenth Circuit Court District shall be
471 divided into two (2) subdistricts as follows:



472 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall be composed of DeSoto
473 County; and

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

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

478 9-7-45. The Seventeenth Circuit Court District shall be
479 composed of the following counties:

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

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

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

487 9-7-46. (1) There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
488 Seventeenth Circuit Court District.

489 (2) For the purpose of appointment and election, the four
490 (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct, and one (1) judge
491 shall be elected from Subdistrict 17-1, two (2) judges shall be
492 elected from Subdistrict 17-2, and one (1) judge shall be elected
493 from every county in the district. The two (2) judgeships in
494 Subdistrict 17-2 shall be denominated as "Place One" and "Place
495 Two," the judgeship in Subdistrict 17-1 shall be denominated as



496 "Place Three," and the at-large judgeship shall be denominated as
497 "Place Four."

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

500 9-7-46. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the
501 Seventeenth Circuit Court District.

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

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

507 9-7-47. The Eighteenth Circuit Court District shall be Jones
508 County.

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

511 9-7-49. (1) The Nineteenth Circuit Court District is
512 composed of the following counties:

- 513 (a) George County;
514 (b) Greene County; and
515 (c) Jackson County.

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



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

523 9-7-51. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
524 Nineteenth Circuit Court District. The three (3) judgeships shall
525 be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of
526 appointment and election only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two"
527 and "Place Three."

528 (2) The senior judge of the Nineteenth Circuit Court
529 District may divide the court of any county within the district
530 into civil, criminal and appellate court divisions as a matter of
531 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the
532 court.

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

535 9-7-53. The Twentieth Circuit Court District is composed of
536 the following counties:

- 537 (a) Madison County; and
538 (b) Rankin County.

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

541 9-7-54. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
542 Twentieth Circuit Court District.

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



546 judge to fill Place One must reside in Rankin County, the judge to
547 fill Place Two must reside in Madison County, and the judge to
548 fill Place Three may reside in either Madison or Rankin County.

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

551 9-7-55. The Twenty-first Circuit Court District is composed
552 of the following counties:

- 553 (a) Holmes County;
- 554 (b) Humphreys County; and
- 555 (c) Yazoo County.

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

558 9-7-57. The Twenty-second Circuit Court District is composed
559 of the following counties:

- 560 (a) Claiborne County;
- 561 (b) Covich County; and
- 562 (c) Jefferson County.

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

565 9-7-63. The Twenty-third Circuit Court District shall be
566 DeSoto County.

567 **SECTION 40.** Section 9-7-64, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
568 brought forward as follows:

569 9-7-64. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the
570 Twenty-third Circuit Court District.



571 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the two
572 (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated as
573 "Place One" and "Place Two."

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

576 9-5-1. A chancellor shall be elected for and from each of
577 the chancery court districts as provided in this chapter and the
578 listing of individual precincts shall be those precincts as they
579 existed on October 1, 1990. He shall hold court in any other
580 district with the consent of the chancellor thereof when in their
581 opinion the public interest may be thereby promoted. The terms of
582 all chancellors elected at the regular election for the year 1930
583 shall begin on the first day of January, 1931, and their terms of
584 office shall continue for four (4) years. A chancellor shall be a
585 resident of the district in which he serves but shall not be
586 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is
587 divided into subdistricts.

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

590 9-5-3. (1) The state shall be divided into an appropriate
591 number of chancery court districts, severally numbered and
592 composed of the counties as set forth in the sections which
593 follow. A court to be styled "The Chancery Court of the County of
594 ____" shall be held in each county, and within each judicial
595 district of a county having two (2) judicial districts, at least



596 twice a year. Court shall be held in chancery court districts
597 consisting of a single county on the same dates state agencies and
598 political subdivisions are open for business excluding legal
599 holidays. The dates upon which terms shall commence and the
600 number of days for which terms shall continue in chancery court
601 districts consisting of more than one (1) county shall be set by
602 order of the chancellor in accordance with the provisions of
603 subsection (2) of this section. A matter in court may extend past
604 a term if the interest of justice so requires.

605 (2) An order establishing the commencement and continuation
606 of terms of court for each of the counties within a chancery court
607 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered
608 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately
609 preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to
610 become effective. Notice of the dates upon which terms of court
611 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall
612 continue in each of the counties within a chancery court district
613 shall be posted in the office of the chancery clerk of each county
614 within the district and mailed to the office of the Secretary of
615 State for publication and distribution to all Mississippi Bar
616 members. If an order is not timely entered, the terms of court
617 for each of the counties within the chancery court district shall
618 remain unchanged for the next calendar year.



619 (3) The number of chancellorships for each chancery court
620 district shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the
621 following criteria:

- 622 (a) The population of the district;
- 623 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;
- 624 (c) The caseload of each chancellor in the district;
- 625 (d) The geographic area of the district;
- 626 (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the
627 court personnel of the district; and
- 628 (f) Any other appropriate criteria.

629 (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi
630 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine
631 the appropriate:

- 632 (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for
633 applying the above criteria;
- 634 (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified
635 data; and
- 636 (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.

637 (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of
638 chancellor, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the
639 powers, duties and emoluments of those offices except that the
640 chancellor who has been for the longest time continuously a
641 chancellor of that court or, should no chancellor have served
642 longer in office than the others, the chancellor who has been for
643 the longest time a member of The Mississippi Bar shall be the



644 senior chancellor. The senior chancellor shall have the right to
645 assign causes and dockets and to set terms in districts consisting
646 of more than one (1) county.

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

649 9-5-5. The First Chancery Court District is composed of the
650 following counties:

- 651 (a) Alcorn County;
- 652 (b) Itawamba County;
- 653 (c) Lee County;
- 654 (d) Monroe County;
- 655 (e) Pontotoc County;
- 656 (f) Prentiss County;
- 657 (g) Tishomingo County; and
- 658 (h) Union County.

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

661 9-5-7. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
662 First Chancery Court District.

663 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
664 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
665 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and
666 "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One must be a resident
667 of Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The chancellors to fill
668 Place Two and Place Three must reside in Itawamba, Lee, Monroe,



669 Pontotoc or Union County. The chancellor to fill Place Four may
670 be a resident of any county in the district. Election of the four
671 (4) offices of chancellor shall be by election to be held in every
672 county within the First Chancery Court District.

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

675 9-5-9. The Second Chancery Court District is composed of the
676 following counties:

- 677 (a) Jasper County;
- 678 (b) Newton County; and
- 679 (c) Scott County.

680 **SECTION 46.** Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
681 brought forward as follows:

682 9-5-11. (1) The Third Chancery Court District is composed
683 of the following counties:

- 684 (a) DeSoto County;
- 685 (b) Grenada County;
- 686 (c) Montgomery County;
- 687 (d) Panola County;
- 688 (e) Tate County; and
- 689 (f) Yalobusha County.

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

- 692 (a) Subdistrict 3-1 shall consist of DeSoto County.



693 (b) Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Grenada County,
694 Montgomery County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha
695 County.

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

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

699 9-5-13. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
700 Third Chancery Court District.

701 (2) (a) The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected
702 from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2
703 shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola
704 County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

705 (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the three
706 (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. The
707 chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated only as
708 "Place One * * *", and the chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2
709 shall be denominated only as "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *".

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

712 9-5-13. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
713 Third Chancery Court District.

714 (2) (a) The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be
715 elected from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of
716 Subdistrict 3-2 shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery
717 County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.



718 (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the four
719 (4) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated
720 as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and "Place
721 Four". The chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be
722 denominated only as "Place One" and "Place Four" and the
723 chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2 shall be denominated only as
724 "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *".

725 **SECTION 48.** Section 9-5-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
726 brought forward as follows:

727 9-5-17. (1) The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed
728 of Hinds County.

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

731 (a) Subdistrict 5-1 shall consist of the following
732 precincts in Hinds County: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33, 34,
733 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92, 93, 96
734 and 97.

735 (b) Subdistrict 5-2 shall consist of the following
736 precincts in Hinds County: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27,
737 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,
738 Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.

739 (c) Subdistrict 5-3 shall consist of the following
740 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,
741 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 66,
742 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 86, 89 and Jackson State.



743 (d) Subdistrict 5-4 shall consist of the following
744 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram
745 1, Byram 2, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2, Clinton 3,
746 Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Dry Grove, Edwards, Learned, Old
747 Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2, Spring Ridge, St. Thomas,
748 Terry, Utica 1 and Utica 2.

749 **SECTION 49.** Section 9-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
750 brought forward as follows:

751 9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
752 Fifth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be
753 elected from each subdistrict.

754 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
755 powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon
756 them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the
757 First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the
758 senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a
759 matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of
760 the court.

761 **SECTION 50.** Section 9-5-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
762 brought forward as follows:

763 9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the
764 following counties:

- 765 (a) Attala County;
- 766 (b) Carroll County;
- 767 (c) Choctaw County;



- 768 (d) Kemper County;
769 (e) Neshoba County; and
770 (f) Winston County.

771 **SECTION 51.** Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
772 brought forward as follows:

773 9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
774 Sixth Chancery Court District.

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

778 **SECTION 52.** Section 9-5-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
779 brought forward as follows:

780 9-5-23. (1) The Seventh Chancery Court District is composed
781 of the following counties:

- 782 (a) Bolivar County;
783 (b) Coahoma County;
784 (c) Leflore County;
785 (d) Quitman County;
786 (e) Tallahatchie County; and
787 (f) Tunica County.

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

790 (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of Bolivar County and
791 Coahoma County;



792 (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of Leflore County,
793 Quitman County, Tallahatchie County and Tunica County.

794 **SECTION 53.** Section 9-5-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
795 amended as follows:

796 9-5-25. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Seventh
797 Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be
798 separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
799 Subdistrict 7-1 and shall be denominated for purposes of
800 appointment and election only as "Place One * * *", and two (2)
801 chancellors shall be elected from Subdistrict 7-2 and shall be
802 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
803 "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *".

804 **SECTION 54.** Section 9-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
805 brought forward as follows:

806 9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of
807 the following counties:

- 808 (a) Hancock County;
- 809 (b) Harrison County; and
- 810 (c) Stone County.

811 **SECTION 55.** Section 9-5-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
812 amended as follows:

813 9-5-29. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
814 Eighth Chancery Court District.

815 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
816 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election



817 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and
818 "Place Four."

819 (3) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
820 powers and duties of the chancellors other than as cast upon them
821 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the
822 Eighth Chancery Court District, in the discretion of the senior
823 chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a matter of
824 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the
825 court.

826 **SECTION 56.** Section 9-5-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
827 brought forward as follows:

828 9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed
829 of the following counties:

- 830 (a) Humphreys County;
- 831 (b) Issaquena County;
- 832 (c) Sharkey County;
- 833 (d) Sunflower County;
- 834 (e) Warren County; and
- 835 (f) Washington County.

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

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

- 840 (i) Sunflower County: Boyer-Linn, Drew,
841 Fairview-Hale, Indianola 2 East*, Indianola 3 North*, Indianola 3



842 Northeast*, Indianola 3 South*, Rome, Ruleville, Ruleville North
843 and Sunflower Plantation; and

844 (ii) Washington County: American Legion, Brent
845 Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Darlove Baptist Church*,
846 Elks Club, Extension Building, Grace Methodist Church*, Greenville
847 Industrial College, Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Rotary
848 Club, Metcalf City Hall and Potter House Church.

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

851 (i) Sunflower County: Doddsville, Indianola 2
852 East*, Indianola 2 West, Indianola 3 North*, Indianola 3
853 Northeast*, Indianola 3 South*, Indianola Southeast, Inverness,
854 Moorhead, Sunflower 3 and Sunflower 4; and

855 (ii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall, Christ
856 Wesleyan Methodist Church, Darlove Baptist Church*, Glen Allan
857 Health Clinic, Grace Methodist Church*, Hollandale City Hall, St.
858 James Episcopal Church, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Tampa Drive and
859 Ward's Recreation Center.

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

862 **SECTION 57.** Section 9-5-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
863 brought forward as follows:

864 9-5-33. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Ninth
865 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
866 each subdistrict.



867 **SECTION 58.** Section 9-5-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
868 brought forward as follows:

869 9-5-35. The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the
870 following counties:

- 871 (a) Forrest County;
- 872 (b) Lamar County;
- 873 (c) Marion County;
- 874 (d) Pearl River County; and
- 875 (e) Perry County.

876 **SECTION 59.** Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
877 amended as follows:

878 9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
879 Tenth Chancery Court District.

880 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
881 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
882 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and
883 "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may
884 be a resident of any county in the district. The chancellor to
885 fill Place Two must be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or
886 Perry County. The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a
887 resident of Forrest County. Election of the four (4) offices of
888 chancellor shall be by election to be held in every county within
889 the Tenth Chancery Court District.

890 **SECTION 60.** Section 9-5-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
891 brought forward as follows:



892 9-5-37. (1) The Eleventh Chancery Court District is
893 composed of the following counties:

- 894 (a) Holmes County;
- 895 (b) Leake County;
- 896 (c) Madison County; and
- 897 (d) Yazoo County.

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

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

904 (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of Leake County and
905 the following precincts in Madison County: Bear Creek, Camden,
906 Cameron, Canton 1, Canton 2, Canton 3, Canton 7, Cedar Grove,
907 Cobblestone, Couparle, Gluckstadt, Highland Colony Baptist Church,
908 Liberty, Lorman/Cavalier, Luther Branson School, Madison 1,
909 Madison 2, Madison 3, Main Harbor, New Industrial Park, North Bay,
910 Ratliff Ferry, Ridgeland 1, Ridgeland 3, Ridgeland 4, Ridgeland
911 First Methodist Church, Ridgeland Tennis Center, Sharon,
912 Sunnybrook, Tougaloo, Trace Harbor, Victory Baptist Church,
913 Virililia, Whisper Lake and Yandell Road.

914 **SECTION 61.** Section 9-5-38, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
915 amended as follows:



916 9-5-38. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
917 Eleventh Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships
918 shall be separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be
919 elected from Subdistrict 11-1 and denominated for purposes of
920 appointment and election only as "Place One * * *", one (1)
921 chancellor shall be elected from Subdistrict 11-2 and denominated
922 for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place
923 Two * * *", and one (1) chancellor shall be elected at large from
924 the entire Eleventh Chancery Court District and denominated for
925 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place Three * * *".

926 **SECTION 62.** Section 9-5-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
927 brought forward as follows:

928 9-5-39. The Twelfth Chancery Court District is composed of
929 the following counties:

- 930 (a) Clarke County; and
931 (b) Lauderdale County.

932 **SECTION 63.** Section 9-5-40, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
933 brought forward as follows:

934 9-5-40. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth
935 Chancery Court District.

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

939 **SECTION 64.** Section 9-5-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
940 brought forward as follows:



941 9-5-41. (1) The Thirteenth Chancery Court District is
942 composed of the following counties:

- 943 (a) Covington County;
- 944 (b) Jefferson Davis County;
- 945 (c) Lawrence County;
- 946 (d) Simpson County; and
- 947 (e) Smith County.

948 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Thirteenth
949 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
950 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
951 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

952 **SECTION 65.** Section 9-5-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
953 brought forward as follows:

954 9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is
955 composed of the following counties:

- 956 (a) Chickasaw County;
- 957 (b) Clay County;
- 958 (c) Lowndes County;
- 959 (d) Noxubee County;
- 960 (e) Oktibbeha County; and
- 961 (f) Webster County.

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

- 964 (a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County,
965 Webster County and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County:



966 Bell Schoolhouse*, Bradley, Center Grove, Central Starkville*,
967 Craig Springs, Double Springs, East Starkville*, Gillespie Street
968 Center*, Maben, North Adaton, North Longview, North Starkville 2*,
969 North Starkville 3, Northeast Starkville, Self Creek, South
970 Adaton, South Longview, South Starkville*, Sturgis and West
971 Starkville*.

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

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

976 (ii) Lowndes County: Air Base A, Air Base B, Air
977 Base C, Air Base D, Air Base E, Brandon A, Brandon B, Brandon C,
978 Brandon D, Caledonia, Columbus High School A, Columbus High School
979 B, Columbus High School C, Columbus High School D, Dowdle Gas
980 Training Center B, Fairgrounds C, Fairgrounds E, Fairgrounds F,
981 Hunt C, Lee Middle School, Mitchell A, New Hope A, New Hope B, New
982 Hope C, New Hope D, New Hope E, Rural Hill A, Rural Hill B, Rural
983 Hill C, Sale A, Sale B, Sale C, Steens A, Steens B, Steens C,
984 Trinity B, Union Academy B, Union Academy C and University A.

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

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

989 (ii) Lowndes County: Artesia, Coleman A, Coleman
990 B, Crawford A, Fairgrounds A, Fairgrounds B, Fairgrounds D,



991 Fairgrounds G, Hunt A, Hunt B, Mitchell B, New Hope F, Plum Grove
992 A, Plum Grove B, Plum Grove C, Propst Park Community Hut, Trinity
993 A, Union Academy A, University B, West Lowndes A and West Lowndes
994 B; and

995 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Bell Schoolhouse*,
996 Central Starkville*, East Starkville*, Gillespie Street Center*,
997 Hickory Grove, North Starkville 2*, Oktoc, Osborn, Sessums, South
998 Starkville*, Southeast Oktibbeha and West Starkville*.

999 **SECTION 66.** Section 9-5-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1000 brought forward as follows:

1001 9-5-45. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1002 Fourteenth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be
1003 elected from each subdistrict.

1004 **SECTION 67.** Section 9-5-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1005 brought forward as follows:

1006 9-5-47. The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
1007 the following counties:

- 1008 (a) Covich County; and
1009 (b) Lincoln County.

1010 **SECTION 68.** Section 9-5-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1011 brought forward as follows:

1012 9-5-49. The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
1013 the following counties:

- 1014 (a) George County;
1015 (b) Greene County; and



1016 (c) Jackson County.

1017 **SECTION 69.** Section 9-5-50, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1018 amended as follows:

1019 9-5-50. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1020 Sixteenth Chancery Court District.

1021 (2) The three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and
1022 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
1023 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two" and "Place Three."

1024 **SECTION 70.** Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1025 brought forward as follows:

1026 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is
1027 composed of the following counties:

- 1028 (a) Adams County;
- 1029 (b) Claiborne County;
- 1030 (c) Jefferson County; and
- 1031 (d) Wilkinson County.

1032 (2) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District shall be divided
1033 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

1034 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall consist of Claiborne County,
1035 Jefferson County, and the following precincts in Adams County:
1036 Airport Carpenter*, Convention Center*, Foster Mound, Maryland*,
1037 Northside School, Palestine, Pine Ridge, Thompson and Washington*.

1038 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Wilkinson County
1039 and the following precincts in Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont,
1040 By-Pass Fire Station, Carpenter*, Concord, Convention Center*,



1041 Courthouse, Duncan Park, Kingston, Liberty Park, Maryland*,
1042 Morgantown, Oakland and Washington*.

1043 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth
1044 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
1045 each subdistrict.

1046 **SECTION 71.** Section 9-5-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1047 brought forward as follows:

1048 9-5-53. The Eighteenth Chancery Court District is composed
1049 of the following counties:

- 1050 (a) Benton County;
- 1051 (b) Calhoun County;
- 1052 (c) Lafayette County;
- 1053 (d) Marshall County; and
- 1054 (e) Tippah County.

1055 **SECTION 72.** Section 9-5-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1056 brought forward as follows:

1057 9-5-54. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
1058 Eighteenth Chancery Court District.

1059 (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
1060 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
1061 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

1062 **SECTION 73.** Section 9-5-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1063 brought forward as follows:

1064 9-5-55. The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is composed
1065 of the following counties:



1066 (a) Jones County; and

1067 (b) Wayne County.

1068 **SECTION 74.** Section 9-5-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1069 brought forward as follows:

1070 9-5-57. The Twentieth Chancery Court District shall be
1071 Rankin County.

1072 **SECTION 75.** Section 9-5-58, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1073 amended as follows:

1074 9-5-58. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1075 Twentieth Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment
1076 and election the three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and
1077 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
1078 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two", and "Place Three * * *".

1079 **SECTION 76.** Section 9-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1080 brought forward as follows:

1081 9-3-1. The state shall be divided into three (3) Supreme
1082 Court districts, as follows, to wit:

1083 The counties of Bolivar, Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Holmes,
1084 Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake,
1085 Madison, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Rankin, Scott, Sharkey,
1086 Sunflower, Warren, Washington and Yazoo shall constitute the First
1087 District.

1088 The counties of Adams, Amite, Clarke, Covington, Forrest,
1089 Franklin, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper,
1090 Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Pearl



1091 River, Perry, Pike, Simpson, Smith, Stone, Walthall, Wayne, and
1092 Wilkinson shall constitute the Second District.

1093 The counties of Alcorn, Attala, Benton, Calhoun, Carroll,
1094 Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Itawamba,
1095 Lafayette, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery,
1096 Oktibbeha, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Quitman, Tallahatchie,
1097 Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Tunica, Union, Webster, Winston and
1098 Yalobusha, shall constitute the Third District.

1099 **SECTION 77.** Section 23-15-993, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1100 brought forward as follows:

1101 23-15-993. For the purpose of all elections, each of the
1102 nine (9) judgeships of the Supreme Court shall be considered a
1103 separate office. The three (3) offices in each of the three (3)
1104 Supreme Court districts shall be designated Position Number 1,
1105 Position Number 2 and Position Number 3, and in qualifying for
1106 office as a candidate for any office of judge of the Supreme Court
1107 each candidate shall state the position number of the office to
1108 which he aspires and the regular election ballots shall so
1109 indicate. In Supreme Court District Number 1: Position Number 1
1110 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 1966;
1111 Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term ends in
1112 January 1965; and Position Number 3 shall be that office for which
1113 the term ends in January 1969. In District Number 2: Position
1114 Number 1 shall be that office for which the term ends in January
1115 1972; Position Number 2 shall be that office for which the term



1116 ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3 shall be for that
1117 office for which the term ends in January 1973. In District
1118 Number 3: Position Number 1 shall be that office for which the
1119 term ends in January 1969; Position Number 2 shall be that office
1120 for which the term ends in January 1969; and Position Number 3
1121 shall be that office for which the term ends in January 1965.

1122 **SECTION 78.** Section 25-31-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1123 brought forward as follows:

1124 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal
1125 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court
1126 districts:

1127 (a) First Circuit Court District..... ten (10)
1128 legal assistants.

1129 (b) Second Circuit Court District..... eleven (11)
1130 legal assistants.

1131 (c) Third Circuit Court District..... six (6)
1132 legal assistants.

1133 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....six (6)
1134 legal assistants.

1135 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
1136 legal assistants.

1137 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... three (3)
1138 legal assistants.

1139 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... twelve (12)
1140 legal assistants. Effective July 1, 2023, through July 1, 2025,



1141 the Seventh Circuit Court District shall have fourteen (14) legal
1142 assistants.

1143 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
1144 legal assistants.

1145 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
1146 legal assistants.

1147 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)
1148 legal assistants.

1149 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....five (5)
1150 legal assistants.

1151 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
1152 legal assistants.

1153 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....four (4)
1154 legal assistants.

1155 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
1156 legal assistants.

1157 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
1158 legal assistants.

1159 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
1160 legal assistants.

1161 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)
1162 legal assistants.

1163 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1164 legal assistants.



1165 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
1166 legal assistants.

1167 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
1168 legal assistants.

1169 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... four (4)
1170 legal assistants.

1171 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... three (3)
1172 legal assistants.

1173 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District five (5)
1174 legal assistants.

1175 (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant
1176 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of
1177 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following
1178 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the
1179 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe
1180 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following
1181 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one
1182 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a
1183 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses
1184 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such
1185 district pursuant to this subsection:

1186 (a) First Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1187 legal assistants.

1188 (b) Second Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1189 legal assistants.



1190 (c) Third Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1191 legal assistants.
1192 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1193 legal assistants.
1194 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1195 legal assistants.
1196 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1197 legal assistants.
1198 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1199 legal assistants.
1200 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1201 legal assistants.
1202 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1203 legal assistants.
1204 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1205 legal assistants.
1206 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1207 legal assistants.
1208 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1209 legal assistants.
1210 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1211 legal assistants.
1212 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1213 legal assistants.



1214 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1215 legal assistants.

1216 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1217 legal assistants.

1218 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1219 legal assistants.

1220 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1221 legal assistants.

1222 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1223 legal assistants.

1224 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1225 legal assistants.

1226 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1227 legal assistants.

1228 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1229 legal assistants.

1230 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1231 legal assistants.

1232 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a
1233 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits
1234 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the
1235 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to
1236 this section.

1237 (4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may
1238 employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or



1239 both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal
1240 assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators
1241 authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the
1242 district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any
1243 source shall include, but is not limited to, office generated
1244 funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a
1245 municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds,
1246 private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal
1247 Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be
1248 expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of
1249 the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the
1250 positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney
1251 accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department
1252 of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate
1253 counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds
1254 shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as
1255 state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal
1256 assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of
1257 supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district
1258 the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and
1259 fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the
1260 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such
1261 information to the Department of Finance and Administration which
1262 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget
1263 Office.



1264 (5) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
1265 duties of a legal assistant regardless of the source of funding
1266 for such legal assistants.

1267 **SECTION 79.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
1268 and after July 1, 2024.

