

By: Senator(s) Seymour

To: Elections; Judiciary,
Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2208

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-753, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE PUNISHMENT FOR THE CRIME OF VOTE FRAUD TO A FINE NOT
3 LESS THAN \$1,000.00 AND A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT IN THE PENITENTIARY
4 FOR NOT LESS THAN ONE YEAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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



20 any person who fraudulently requests or submits an absentee ballot
21 application for any voter, or any person who shall willfully swear
22 falsely to any affidavit provided for in Sections 23-15-621
23 through 23-15-735, shall be guilty of the felony crime of "vote
24 fraud" and, upon conviction, shall be * * * fined not less
25 than * * * One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Five
26 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), * * * and shall be sentenced to the
27 State Penitentiary for not less than one (1) year nor more than
28 five (5) years.

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

38 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
39 and after July 1, 2024.

