

By: Senator(s) England

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2422
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-913, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO SPECIFY WHICH JUDGES HAVE JURISDICTION TO HEAR ELECTION
3 DISPUTES ON ELECTION DAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-913, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-913. The judges listed and selected to hear election
8 disputes, as provided in Section 23-15-951, shall be available on
9 election day to immediately hear and resolve any election day
10 disputes. The list of judges selected to hear election day
11 disputes shall be provided to the Secretary of State by the Chief
12 Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court no later than seven (7)
13 days before the election in which the selected judges are to hear
14 election day disputes. The rules for filing pleadings shall be
15 relaxed to carry out the purposes of this section. The judges
16 selected shall perform no other judicial duties on election day.
17 The Supreme Court shall make judges available to hear disputes in
18 the county in which the disputes occur but no judge shall hear



19 disputes in the district or county in which he or she was elected
20 nor shall any judge hear any dispute in which any potential
21 conflict may arise. Each judge shall be fair and impartial and
22 shall be assigned on that basis. The listed and selected judges
23 provided by the Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court
24 shall have sole jurisdiction to hear election day disputes.
25 Election disputes can only be filed in a circuit court with proper
26 jurisdiction and heard by one (1) of the judges selected by the
27 Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court.

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

