

By: Senator(s) England

To: Elections;  
Accountability, Efficiency,  
Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2576  
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-563, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO FURTHER CLARIFY WHAT COUNTS AS VALID VOTER IDENTIFICATION; AND  
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 23-15-563, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 23-15-563. (1) Each person who appears to vote in person at  
8 a polling place or the registrar's office shall be required to  
9 identify himself or herself to a poll manager or the registrar by  
10 presenting current and valid photo identification before such  
11 person shall be allowed to vote.

12 (2) The identification required by subsection (1) of this  
13 section shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 14 (a) A \* \* \* valid Mississippi driver's license;
- 15 (b) A \* \* \* valid identification card issued by a  
16 branch, department, agency or entity of the State of Mississippi;
- 17 (c) A \* \* \* valid United States passport;



18 (d) A \* \* \* valid employee identification card  
19 containing a photograph of the elector and issued by any branch,  
20 department, agency or entity of the United States government, the  
21 State of Mississippi, or any county, municipality, board,  
22 authority or other entity of this state;

23 (e) A current and valid Mississippi license to carry a  
24 pistol or revolver;

25 (f) A valid tribal identification card containing a  
26 photograph of the elector;

27 (g) A \* \* \* valid United States military identification  
28 card;

29 (h) A current and valid student identification card,  
30 containing a photograph of the elector, issued by any accredited  
31 college, university or community or junior college in the State of  
32 Mississippi; and

33 (i) An official Mississippi voter identification card  
34 containing a photograph of the elector.

35 (3) For purposes of this section valid shall mean an  
36 official government document that establishes the voter's identity  
37 and has no expiration date or has an issuance date not more than  
38 ten (10) years prior to the date the document is presented.

39 ( \* \* \*4) (a) A person who appears to vote in person at a  
40 polling place and does not have identification as required by this  
41 section may vote by affidavit ballot. The affidavit ballot shall



42 then be counted if the person shall present acceptable photo  
43 identification to the registrar within five (5) days.

44 (b) An elector who has a religious objection to being  
45 photographed may vote by affidavit ballot, and the elector, within  
46 five (5) days after the election, shall execute an affidavit in  
47 the registrar's office affirming that the exemption applies.

48 ( \* \* \*5) The intentional failure of an election official to  
49 require a voter to present identification as required by this  
50 section shall be considered corrupt conduct under Section 97-13-19  
51 and shall be reported to the Secretary of State and the Attorney  
52 General.

53 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
54 and after its passage.

