

Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 722

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after line 107 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

108 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Legislature under
109 Section 152 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 to redistrict
110 the circuit and chancery court districts after each federal
111 decennial census; and

112 WHEREAS, the Legislature has investigated the state of the
113 trial courts and the trial court districts and has considered the
114 needs of the state according to all the criteria imposed by the
115 Constitution and by general law; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

117 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-5-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
118 amended as follows:

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

120 9-5-9. The Second Chancery Court District is composed of the
121 following counties:

- 122 (a) Jasper County;
- 123 (b) Newton County; and
- 124 (c) Scott County.

125 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
126 follows:]

127 9-5-9. (1) The Second Chancery Court District is composed
128 of the following counties:

129 (a) Covington County;

130 (b) Jasper County;

131 (c) Newton County;

132 (d) Scott County;

133 (e) Simpson County; and

134 (f) Smith County.

135 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Second
136 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
137 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
138 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor
139 to fill Place One must reside in either Jasper County, Newton
140 County or Scott County, and the chancellor to fill Place Two must
141 reside in either Covington County, Simpson County, or Smith
142 County.

143 **SECTION 2.** Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
144 amended as follows:

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

146 9-5-11. (1) The Third Chancery Court District is composed
147 of the following counties:

148 (a) DeSoto County;

149 (b) Grenada County;

150 (c) Montgomery County;

- 151 (d) Panola County;
- 152 (e) Tate County; and
- 153 (f) Yalobusha County.

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

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

157 (b) Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Grenada County,
158 Montgomery County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha
159 County.

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

162 9-5-11. The Third Chancery Court District is composed of the
163 following counties:

164 (a) Carroll County;

165 (b) Grenada County;

166 (c) Montgomery County;

167 (d) Panola County;

168 (e) Tate County; and

169 (f) Yalobusha County.

170 **SECTION 3.** Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
171 amended as follows:

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

173 9-5-13. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
174 Third Chancery Court District.

175 (2) (a) The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected
176 from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2

177 shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola
178 County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

179 (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the three
180 (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. The
181 chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated only as
182 "Place One," and the chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2 shall be
183 denominated only as "Place Two" and "Place Three."

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

186 9-5-13. (1) There shall be * * * two (2) chancellors for
187 the Third Chancery Court District.

188 (2) * * * The * * * two (2) chancellorships shall be
189 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
190 and election only as "Place One * * *" and "Place
191 Two * * *." * * *

192 **SECTION 4.** Section 9-5-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
193 amended as follows:

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

195 9-5-15. (1) The Fourth Chancery Court District is composed
196 of the following counties:

- 197 (a) Amite County;
198 (b) Franklin County;
199 (c) Pike County; and
200 (d) Walthall County.

201 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fourth
202 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be

203 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
204 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

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

207 9-5-15. (1) The Fourth Chancery Court District is composed
208 of the following counties:

- 209 (a) Forrest County;
210 (b) Perry County; and
211 (c) Stone County.

212 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fourth
213 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
214 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
215 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

216 **SECTION 5.** Section 9-5-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
217 amended as follows:

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

219 9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the
220 following counties:

- 221 (a) Attala County;
222 (b) Carroll County;
223 (c) Choctaw County;
224 (d) Kemper County;
225 (e) Neshoba County; and
226 (f) Winston County.

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

229 9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the
230 following counties:

- 231 (a) Attala County;
- 232 (b) Choctaw County;
- 233 (c) Kemper County;
- 234 (d) Neshoba County; and
- 235 (e) Winston County.

236 **SECTION 6.** Section 9-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
237 amended as follows:

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

239 9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of
240 the following counties:

- 241 (a) Hancock County;
- 242 (b) Harrison County; and
- 243 (c) Stone County.

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

246 9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of
247 the following counties:

- 248 (a) Hancock County; and
- 249 (b) Harrison County.

250 **SECTION 7.** Section 9-5-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
251 amended as follows:

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

253 9-5-35. The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the
254 following counties:

- 255 (a) Forrest County;
- 256 (b) Lamar County;
- 257 (c) Marion County;
- 258 (d) Pearl River County; and
- 259 (e) Perry County.

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

262 9-5-35. The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the
263 following counties:

- 264 (a) Jefferson Davis County;
- 265 (b) Lamar County;
- 266 (c) Marion County;
- 267 (d) Pearl River County; and
- 268 (e) Walthall County.

269 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
270 amended as follows:

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

272 9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
273 Tenth Chancery Court District.

274 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
275 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
276 only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four."
277 The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may be a resident
278 of any county in the district. The chancellor to fill Place Two
279 must be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or Perry County.
280 The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a resident of Forrest

281 County. Election of the four (4) offices of chancellor shall be
282 by election to be held in every county within the Tenth Chancery
283 Court District.

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

286 9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
287 Tenth Chancery Court District.

288 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
289 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
290 only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four."
291 The chancellor to fill either Place One, Place Three or Place Four
292 may be a resident of any county. The chancellor to fill Place Two
293 must be a resident of Lamar County, Marion County, or Pearl River
294 County.

295 **SECTION 9.** Section 9-5-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
296 amended as follows:

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

298 9-5-41. (1) The Thirteenth Chancery Court District is
299 composed of the following counties:

- 300 (a) Covington County;
- 301 (b) Jefferson Davis County;
- 302 (c) Lawrence County;
- 303 (d) Simpson County; and
- 304 (e) Smith County.

305 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Thirteenth
306 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be

307 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
308 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

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

311 9-5-41. (1) The Thirteenth Chancery Court District shall be
312 Desoto County.

313 (2) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Thirteenth
314 Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be
315 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
316 and election only as "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."

317 **SECTION 10.** Section 9-5-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
318 amended as follows:

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

320 9-5-47. The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
321 the following counties:

- 322 (a) Covich County; and
323 (b) Lincoln County.

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

326 9-5-47. (1) The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is
327 composed of the following counties:

- 328 (a) Covich County;
329 (b) Lawrence County; and
330 (c) Lincoln County.

331 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fifteenth
332 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be

333 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
334 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

335 **SECTION 11.** Section 9-5-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
336 amended as follows:

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

338 9-5-49. The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
339 the following counties:

- 340 (a) George County;
- 341 (b) Greene County; and
- 342 (c) Jackson County.

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

345 9-5-49. The Sixteenth Chancery Court District shall be
346 Jackson County.

347 **SECTION 12.** Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
348 amended as follows:

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

350 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is
351 composed of the following counties:

- 352 (a) Adams County;
- 353 (b) Claiborne County;
- 354 (c) Jefferson County; and
- 355 (d) Wilkinson County.

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

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

362 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Wilkinson County
363 and the following precincts in Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont,
364 By-Pass Fire Station, Carpenter*, Concord, Convention Center*,
365 Courthouse, Duncan Park, Kingston, Liberty Park, Maryland*,
366 Morgantown, Oakland and Washington*.

367 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth
368 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
369 each subdistrict.

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

372 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is
373 composed of the following counties:

- 374 (a) Adams County;
375 (b) Amite County;
376 (c) Claiborne County;
377 (d) Franklin County;
378 (e) Jefferson County;
379 (f) Pike County; and
380 (g) Wilkinson County.

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

383 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall consist of Adams County,
384 Claiborne County, Jefferson County, and Wilkinson County.

385 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Amite County,
386 Franklin County, and Pike County.

387 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth
388 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
389 each subdistrict.

390 **SECTION 13.** Section 9-5-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
391 amended as follows:

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

393 9-5-55. The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is composed
394 of the following counties:

395 (a) Jones County; and

396 (b) Wayne County.

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

399 9-5-55. (1) The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is
400 composed of the following counties:

401 (a) George County;

402 (b) Greene County;

403 (c) Jones County; and

404 (d) Wayne County.

405 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Nineteenth
406 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
407 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
408 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor

409 to fill Place One must reside in Jones County, and the chancellor
410 to fill Place Two must reside in either George County, Greene
411 County, or Wayne County.

412 **SECTION 14.** Section 9-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
413 amended as follows:

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

415 9-7-15. (1) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be
416 composed of the following counties:

- 417 (a) Leflore County;
- 418 (b) Sunflower County; and
- 419 (c) Washington County.

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

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

424 (i) Leflore County: Minter City, North Greenwood,
425 Money, Northeast Greenwood, Schlater, West Greenwood, Mississippi
426 Valley State University and Southeast Greenwood Precincts; and

427 (ii) Sunflower County: Ruleville, Rome, Sunflower
428 Plantation, Drew, Doddsville, Boyer-Linn, Fairview-Hale and
429 Ruleville North Precincts.

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

432 (i) Sunflower County: Indianola 1, Sunflower,
433 Indianola 3 North, Indianola 3 South and Indianola 3 Northeast
434 Precincts; and

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

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

441 (i) Leflore County: East Greenwood Sub-A, East
442 Greenwood Sub-B, Central Greenwood, North Itta Bena, South Itta
443 Bena, Southwest Greenwood, Rising Sun, Sidon, Morgan City,
444 Swiftown and South Greenwood Precincts;

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

447 (iii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall,
448 Hollandale City Hall, Darlove Baptist Church and Mangelardi
449 Bourbon Store Precincts.

450 (d) Subdistrict 4-4 shall consist of the following
451 precincts in Washington County: St. James Episcopal Church,
452 Swiftwater Baptist Church, Glen Allan Health Clinic, Italian Club,
453 Ward's Recreation Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Avon
454 Health Center, Kapco Company, Brent Center, William Percy Library
455 and Grace Methodist Church Precincts.

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

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

461 9-7-15. The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be Desoto
462 County.

463 **SECTION 15.** Section 9-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
464 amended as follows:

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

466 9-7-17. There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
467 Fourth Circuit Court District. One (1) circuit judge shall be
468 elected from each subdistrict.

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

471 9-7-17. (1) There shall be three (3) circuit judges for the
472 Fourth Circuit Court District.

473 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the three
474 (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated as
475 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."

476 **SECTION 16.** Section 9-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
477 amended as follows:

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

479 9-7-19. The Fifth Circuit Court District is composed of the
480 following counties:

- 481 (a) Attala County;
- 482 (b) Carroll County;
- 483 (c) Choctaw County;
- 484 (d) Grenada County;
- 485 (e) Montgomery County;
- 486 (f) Webster County; and

487 (g) Winston County.

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

490 9-7-19. The Fifth Circuit Court District is composed of the
491 following counties:

492 (a) Attala County;

493 (b) Carroll County;

494 (c) Choctaw County;

495 (d) Grenada County;

496 (e) Montgomery County; and

497 (f) Winston County.

498 **SECTION 17.** Section 9-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
499 amended as follows:

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

501 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of
502 the following counties:

503 (a) Adams County;

504 (b) Amite County;

505 (c) Franklin County; and

506 (d) Wilkinson County.

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

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

511 (i) Adams County: Airport, By-Pass Fire Station,
512 Carpenter, Concord*, Courthouse*, Duncan Park*, Foster Mound,

513 Maryland*, Northside School, Pine Ridge, Thompson and Washington*;
514 and

515 (ii) Amite County: Ariel, Berwick, Crosby, East
516 Centreville, East Gloster*, Gloster*, Homochitto, South Liberty*
517 and Street.

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

520 (i) Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont, Concord*,
521 Convention Center, Courthouse*, Duncan Park*, Kingston, Liberty
522 Park, Maryland*, Morgantown, Oakland, Palestine and Washington*;
523 and

524 (ii) Amite County: Amite River, East Fork, East
525 Gloster*, East Liberty, Gloster*, Liberty, New Zion, Oneil,
526 Riceville, Smithdale, South Liberty*, Tangipahoa, Tickfaw, Walls
527 and Zion Hills.

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

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

533 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of
534 the following counties:

535 (a) Adams County;

536 (b) Amite County;

537 (c) Claiborne County;

538 (d) Franklin County;

539 (e) Jefferson County;

540 (f) Pike County; and

541 (g) Wilkinson County.

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

544 (a) Subdistrict 6-1 shall consist of Adams County,
545 Claiborne County, Jefferson County and Wilkinson County.

546 (b) Subdistrict 6-2 shall consist of Amite County,
547 Franklin County, and Pike County.

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

551 **SECTION 18.** Section 9-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
552 amended as follows:

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

554 9-7-31. The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the
555 following counties:

556 (a) Clarke County;

557 (b) Kemper County;

558 (c) Lauderdale County; and

559 (d) Wayne County.

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

562 9-7-31. The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the
563 following counties:

564 (a) Clarke County;

565 (b) Kemper County; and

566 (c) Lauderdale County.

567 **SECTION 19.** Section 9-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
568 amended as follows:

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

570 9-7-33. (1) The Eleventh Circuit Court District is composed
571 of the following counties:

572 (a) Bolivar County;

573 (b) Coahoma County;

574 (c) Quitman County; and

575 (d) Tunica County.

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

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

580 (i) Bolivar County: Benoit, Beulah, Boyle,
581 Choctaw, Cleveland Courthouse, East Central Cleveland*, East
582 Cleveland*, East Rosedale, Gunnison, Longshot, North Cleveland,
583 Northwest Cleveland*, Pace, Scott, Shaw, Skene, South Cleveland*,
584 Stringtown, West Central Cleveland, West Cleveland and West
585 Rosedale; and

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

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

590 (i) Bolivar County: Cleveland Eastgate,
591 Duncan/Alligator, East Central Cleveland*, East Cleveland*,
592 Merigold, Mound Bayou, Northwest Cleveland*, Renova, Shelby, South
593 Cleveland* and Winstonville;

594 (ii) Coahoma County: Cagle Crossing, Clarksdale
595 1-4*, Clarksdale 3-3, Clarksdale 3-4, Clarksdale 4-2, Clarksdale
596 4-3, Dublin and Roundaway; and

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

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

601 (i) Coahoma County: Clarksdale 1-4*, Clarksdale
602 2-4*, Clarksdale 5-4*, Coahoma, Farrell*, Friar's Point,
603 Jonestown, Lula, Lyon and Sherard*; and

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

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

608 9-7-33. The Eleventh Circuit Court District is composed of
609 the following counties:

610 (a) Bolivar County;

611 (b) Coahoma County;

612 (c) Leflore County;

613 (d) Quitman County;

614 (e) Sunflower County;

615 (f) Tunica County; and

616 (g) Washington County.

617 **SECTION 20.** Section 9-7-34, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
618 amended as follows:

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

620 9-7-34. There shall be three (3) judges for the Eleventh
621 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
622 subdistrict.

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

625 9-7-34. There shall be four (4) judges for the Eleventh
626 Circuit Court District. The four (4) judgeships shall be separate
627 and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and
628 election only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and
629 "Place Four."

630 **SECTION 21.** Section 9-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
631 amended as follows:

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

633 9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is
634 composed of the following counties:

- 635 (a) Lincoln County;
- 636 (b) Pike County; and
- 637 (c) Walthall County.

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

640 (b) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
641 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
642 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

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

645 9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is
646 composed of the following counties:

- 647 (a) Copiah County;
648 (b) Lawrence County; and
649 (c) Lincoln County.

650 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth Circuit
651 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
652 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
653 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

654 **SECTION 22.** Section 9-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
655 amended as follows:

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

657 9-7-41. The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
658 the following counties:

- 659 (a) Jefferson Davis County;
660 (b) Lamar County;
661 (c) Lawrence County;
662 (d) Marion County; and
663 (e) Pearl River County.

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

666 9-7-41. The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
667 the following counties:

668 (a) Jefferson Davis County;

669 (b) Lamar County;

670 (c) Marion County;

671 (d) Pearl River County; and

672 (e) Walthall County.

673 **SECTION 23.** Section 9-7-42, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
674 amended as follows:

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

676 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
677 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.

678 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
679 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
680 "Place One," "Place Two," and "Place Three." The judge to fill
681 Place One must be a resident of Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Lawrence
682 or Marion County. The judge to fill Place Two may be a resident
683 of any county in the district. The judge to fill Place Three must
684 be a resident of Pearl River County.

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

687 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
688 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.

689 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
690 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
691 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three." The judge to fill

692 Place One must be a resident of Jefferson Davis County, Lamar
693 County, or Marion County. The judge to fill Place Two may be a
694 resident of any county in the district. The judge to fill Place
695 Three must be a resident of Pearl River County.

696 **SECTION 24.** Section 9-7-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
697 amended as follows:

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

699 9-7-43. The Sixteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
700 the following counties:

- 701 (a) Clay County;
- 702 (b) Lowndes County;
- 703 (c) Noxubee County; and
- 704 (d) Oktibbeha County.

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

707 9-7-43. The Sixteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
708 the following counties:

- 709 (a) Clay County;
- 710 (b) Lowndes County;
- 711 (c) Noxubee County;
- 712 (d) Oktibbeha County; and
- 713 (e) Webster County.

714 **SECTION 25.** Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
715 amended as follows:

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

717 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
718 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.

719 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
720 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
721 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three." The judge to fill
722 Place One must be a resident of Lowndes County. The judge to fill
723 Place Two must be a resident of Oktibbeha County. The judge to
724 fill Place Three must be a resident of either Clay or Noxubee
725 County. Election of the three (3) offices of judge shall be by
726 election to be held in every county within the Sixteenth Circuit
727 Court District.

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

730 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
731 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.

732 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
733 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
734 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three." The judge to fill
735 Place One must be a resident of Lowndes County. The judge to fill
736 Place Two must be a resident of Oktibbeha County. The judge to
737 fill Place Three must be a resident of either Clay County, Noxubee
738 County, or Webster County.

739 **SECTION 26.** Section 9-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
740 amended follows:

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

742 9-7-47. The Eighteenth Circuit Court District shall be Jones
743 County.

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

746 9-7-47. (1) The Eighteenth Circuit Court District shall be
747 composed of the following counties:

748 (a) George County;

749 (b) Greene County;

750 (c) Jones County; and

751 (d) Wayne County.

752 (2) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the Eighteenth
753 Circuit Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate
754 and distinct and be denominated for the purpose of appointment and
755 election as "Place One" and "Place Two." The judge to fill Place
756 One must reside in Jones County, and the judge to fill Place Two
757 must reside in either George County, Greene County, or Wayne
758 County.

759 **SECTION 27.** Section 9-7-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
760 amended as follows:

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

762 9-7-49. * * * The Nineteenth Circuit Court District is
763 composed of the following counties:

764 (a) George County;

765 (b) Greene County; and

766 (c) Jackson County.

767 * * *

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

770 9-7-49. The Nineteenth Circuit Court District shall be
771 Jackson County.

772 **SECTION 28.** Section 9-7-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
773 amended as follows:

774 9-7-57. (1) The Twenty-second Circuit Court District is
775 composed of the following counties:

- 776 (a) Claiborne County;
- 777 (b) Copiah County; and
- 778 (c) Jefferson County.

779 (2) This section shall stand repealed on January 1, 2027.

780 **SECTION 29.** Section 9-7-63, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
781 amended as follows:

782 9-7-63. The Twenty-third Circuit Court District shall be
783 DeSoto County. This section shall stand repealed on January 1,
784 2027.

785 **SECTION 30.** Section 9-7-64, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
786 amended as follows:

787 9-7-64. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the
788 Twenty-third Circuit Court District.

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

792 (3) This section shall stand repealed on January 1, 2027.

793 **SECTION 31.** Section 25-31-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
794 amended as follows:

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

796 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal
797 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court
798 districts:

799 (a) First Circuit Court District..... ten (10)
800 legal assistants.

801 (b) Second Circuit Court District..... eleven (11)
802 legal assistants.

803 (c) Third Circuit Court District..... six (6)
804 legal assistants.

805 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
806 legal assistants.

807 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
808 legal assistants.

809 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... three (3)
810 legal assistants.

811 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... * * *
812 fourteen (14) legal assistants. Effective July 1, 2023, through
813 July 1, 2025, the Seventh Circuit Court District shall have * * *
814 sixteen (16) legal assistants.

815 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
816 legal assistants.

817 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
818 legal assistants.

819 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)
820 legal assistants.

821 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....five (5)
822 legal assistants.

823 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
824 legal assistants.

825 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....four (4)
826 legal assistants.

827 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
828 legal assistants.

829 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
830 legal assistants.

831 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
832 legal assistants.

833 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)
834 legal assistants.

835 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
836 legal assistants.

837 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
838 legal assistants.

839 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
840 legal assistants.

841 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... * * *
842 five (5) legal assistants.

843 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... three (3)
844 legal assistants.

845 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District five (5)
846 legal assistants.

847 (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant
848 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of
849 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following
850 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the
851 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe
852 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following
853 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one
854 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a
855 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses
856 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such
857 district pursuant to this subsection:

858 (a) First Circuit Court District.....two (2)
859 legal assistants.

860 (b) Second Circuit Court District.....two (2)
861 legal assistants.

862 (c) Third Circuit Court District.....two (2)
863 legal assistants.

864 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
865 legal assistants.

866 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
867 legal assistants.

868 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
869 legal assistants.

870 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
871 legal assistants.
872 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
873 legal assistants.
874 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
875 legal assistants.
876 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
877 legal assistants.
878 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
879 legal assistants.
880 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
881 legal assistants.
882 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
883 legal assistants.
884 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
885 legal assistants.
886 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
887 legal assistants.
888 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
889 legal assistants.
890 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
891 legal assistants.
892 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
893 legal assistants.
894 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
895 legal assistants.

896 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
897 legal assistants.

898 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)
899 legal assistants.

900 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....two (2)
901 legal assistants.

902 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District.....two (2)
903 legal assistants.

904 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a
905 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits
906 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the
907 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to
908 this section.

909 (4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may
910 employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or
911 both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal
912 assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators
913 authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the
914 district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any
915 source shall include, but is not limited to, office-generated
916 funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a
917 municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds,
918 private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal
919 Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be
920 expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of
921 the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the

922 positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney
923 accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department
924 of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate
925 counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds
926 shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as
927 state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal
928 assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of
929 supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district
930 the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and
931 fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the
932 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such
933 information to the Department of Finance and Administration which
934 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget
935 Office.

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

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

941 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal
942 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court
943 districts:

944 (a) First Circuit Court District..... ten (10)
945 legal assistants.

946 (b) Second Circuit Court District..... eleven (11)
947 legal assistants.

948 (c) Third Circuit Court District..... six (6)
949 legal assistants.
950 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
951 legal assistants.
952 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
953 legal assistants.
954 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... three (3)
955 legal assistants.
956 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... fourteen
957 (14) legal assistants. Effective July 1, 2023, through July 1,
958 2025, the Seventh Circuit Court District shall have sixteen (16)
959 legal assistants.
960 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
961 legal assistants.
962 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....three (3)
963 legal assistants.
964 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)
965 legal assistants.
966 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....five (5)
967 legal assistants.
968 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....five (5)
969 legal assistants.
970 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....four (4)
971 legal assistants.
972 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
973 legal assistants.

974 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
975 legal assistants.

976 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)
977 legal assistants.

978 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)
979 legal assistants.

980 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
981 legal assistants.

982 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
983 legal assistants.

984 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... seven (7)
985 legal assistants.

986 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... five (5)
987 legal assistants.

988 (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant
989 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of
990 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following
991 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the
992 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe
993 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following
994 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one
995 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a
996 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses
997 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such
998 district pursuant to this subsection:

999 (a) First Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1000 legal assistants.
1001 (b) Second Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1002 legal assistants.
1003 (c) Third Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1004 legal assistants.
1005 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1006 legal assistants.
1007 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1008 legal assistants.
1009 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1010 legal assistants.
1011 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1012 legal assistants.
1013 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1014 legal assistants.
1015 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1016 legal assistants.
1017 (j) Tenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1018 legal assistants.
1019 (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1020 legal assistants.
1021 (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1022 legal assistants.
1023 (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)
1024 legal assistants.

1025 (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1026 legal assistants.

1027 (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1028 legal assistants.

1029 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1030 legal assistants.

1031 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1032 legal assistants.

1033 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1034 legal assistants.

1035 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1036 legal assistants.

1037 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1038 legal assistants.

1039 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)

1040 legal assistants.

1041 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a
1042 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits
1043 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the
1044 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to
1045 this section.

1046 (4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may
1047 employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or
1048 both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal
1049 assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators
1050 authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the

1051 district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any
1052 source shall include, but is not limited to, office-generated
1053 funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a
1054 municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds,
1055 private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal
1056 Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be
1057 expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of
1058 the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the
1059 positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney
1060 accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department
1061 of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate
1062 counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds
1063 shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as
1064 state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal
1065 assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of
1066 supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district
1067 the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and
1068 fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the
1069 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such
1070 information to the Department of Finance and Administration which
1071 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget
1072 Office.

1073 (5) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
1074 duties of a legal assistant regardless of the source of funding
1075 for such legal assistants.

1076 **SECTION 32.** Section 25-31-10, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1077 amended as follows:

1078 **[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]**

1079 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time
1080 criminal investigator.

1081 (2) The district attorneys of the Fifth, Ninth, Tenth,
1082 Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth,
1083 Seventeenth * * * and Twentieth * * * Circuit Court Districts may
1084 appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for a
1085 total of two (2) full-time criminal investigators.

1086 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Third,
1087 Fourth, Nineteenth, Twenty-first and Twenty-third Circuit Court
1088 Districts may appoint two (2) additional full-time criminal
1089 investigators for a total of three (3) full-time criminal
1090 investigators.

1091 (4) The district attorney of the Seventh Circuit Court
1092 District may appoint * * * four (4) additional full-time criminal
1093 investigator for a total of * * * five (5) full-time criminal
1094 investigators.

1095 (5) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
1096 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
1097 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

1098 (6) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
1099 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more than
1100 Sixty-three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000.00) per annum, to be
1101 determined at the discretion of the district attorney based upon

1102 the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
1103 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
1104 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
1105 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law
1106 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other
1107 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
1108 assistant to a district attorney.

1109 (7) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the
1110 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training
1111 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq. The total expenses
1112 associated with attendance by criminal investigators at the Law
1113 Enforcement Officers Training Program shall be paid out of the
1114 funds of the appropriate district attorney.

1115 (8) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
1116 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of
1117 funding for such criminal investigators.

1118 **[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as**
1119 **follows:]**

1120 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time
1121 criminal investigator.

1122 (2) The district attorneys of the Fifth, Ninth, Tenth,
1123 Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth,
1124 Seventeenth and Twentieth Circuit Court Districts may appoint one
1125 (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for a total of two
1126 (2) full-time criminal investigators.

1127 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Third,
1128 Fourth, Nineteenth and Twenty-first Circuit Court Districts may
1129 appoint two (2) additional full-time criminal investigators for a
1130 total of three (3) full-time criminal investigators.

1131 (4) The district attorney of the Seventh Circuit Court
1132 District may appoint four (4) additional full-time criminal
1133 investigator for a total of five (5) full-time criminal
1134 investigators.

1135 (5) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
1136 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
1137 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

1138 (6) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
1139 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more than
1140 Sixty-three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000.00) per annum, to be
1141 determined at the discretion of the district attorney based upon
1142 the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
1143 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
1144 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
1145 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law
1146 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other
1147 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
1148 assistant to a district attorney.

1149 (7) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the
1150 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training
1151 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq. The total expenses
1152 associated with attendance by criminal investigators at the Law

1153 Enforcement Officers Training Program shall be paid out of the
1154 funds of the appropriate district attorney.

1155 (8) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
1156 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of
1157 funding for such criminal investigators.

1158 **SECTION 33.** The boundaries of the precincts described in
1159 Section 9-5-17 (Fifth Chancery Court District), Section 9-5-31,
1160 (Ninth Chancery Court District), Section 9-5-37 (Eleventh Chancery
1161 District), Section 9-5-43 (Fourteenth Chancery Court District),
1162 Section 9-5-51 (Seventeenth Chancery Court District), Section
1163 9-7-21 (Sixth Circuit Court District), Section 9-7-23 (Seventh
1164 Circuit Court District), Section 9-7-29 (Ninth Circuit Court
1165 District) and Section 9-7-33 (Eleventh Circuit Court District),
1166 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be the boundaries of the precincts
1167 as those boundaries are contained in the Census Bureau's 2010
1168 TIGER/Line Shapefiles released in November 2010. Partial or split
1169 precincts are identified by an asterisk (*).

1170 **SECTION 34.** (1) The Standing Joint Legislative Committee on
1171 Reapportionment is directed to provide the counties census block
1172 equivalency files and maps necessary to assist the counties in
1173 identifying the boundaries of any subdistricts within a chancery
1174 or circuit court district.

1175 (2) The Split Precinct Block List developed in conjunction
1176 with House Bill No. 703, 2015 Regular Session, that details the
1177 portions of the partial or split precincts that are contained
1178 within a judicial subdistrict by census block number as that list

1179 is utilized to detail partial or split precincts for judicial
1180 subdistricts in this act is hereby incorporated into and shall be
1181 construed to be an integral part of this act. A partial or split
1182 precinct contained in this act is identified by an asterisk (*)
1183 following its designation within any judicial subdistrict. The
1184 Standing Joint Legislative Committee on Reapportionment shall file
1185 the Split Precinct Block List with the Secretary of State.

1186 (3) (a) This act shall be liberally construed to effectuate
1187 the purposes hereof and to redistrict the trial courts of this
1188 state in compliance with constitutional requirements.

1189 (b) It is intended that this act and the districts and
1190 subdistricts described herein completely encompass all the area
1191 within the state and all the voters in this state. It is also
1192 intended that no district shall include any of the area included
1193 within the description of any other district, and that no
1194 subdistrict shall include any of the area included within the
1195 description of any other subdistrict.

1196 (c) (i) If the districts or subdistricts described in
1197 this act do not carry out the purposes hereof because of:
1198 omissions; duplication; overlapping areas; erroneous nomenclature;
1199 lack of adequate maps or descriptions of political subdivisions,
1200 wards or other divisions thereof, or of their boundary lines; then
1201 the Secretary of State, at the joint request of the Lieutenant
1202 Governor and the Speaker of the House, by order, shall correct any
1203 omissions, overlaps, erroneous nomenclature or other defects in

1204 the description of the districts and subdistricts so as to
1205 accomplish the purposes and objectives of this act.

1206 (ii) In promulgating any order under this
1207 subsection (3), the Secretary of State, in addition to insuring
1208 that all areas of the state are completely and accurately
1209 encompassed in the districts and subdistricts, shall be guided by
1210 the following standards:

1211 1. Gaps in the description of any district or
1212 subdistrict shall be completed in a manner that results in a total
1213 description of the district or subdistrict that is consonant with
1214 the description of adjacent districts or subdistricts and results
1215 in complete contiguity of districts and subdistricts;

1216 2. In any allocation of area or correction of
1217 descriptions made pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary of
1218 State shall, consistent with the foregoing standards, preserve the
1219 contiguity and compactness of districts and subdistricts and avoid
1220 the unnecessary division of political subdivisions.

1221 (d) A copy of any order issued under this subsection
1222 shall be filed by the Secretary of State in his own office and in
1223 the offices of the affected commissioners of election and
1224 registrars. The Secretary of State may adopt reasonable rules
1225 regulating the procedure for applications for orders under this
1226 act and the manner of serving and filing any notice or copy of
1227 orders. Upon the filing of an order, the description of any
1228 affected district or subdistrict shall be deemed to have been

1229 corrected to the full extent as if the correction had been
1230 contained in the original description set forth in this act.

1231 (e) The redistricting contained in this act supersedes
1232 any prior redistricting.

1233 (4) The Joint Legislative Committee on Compilation, Revision
1234 and Publication of Legislation shall direct that subsections (1)
1235 through (3) of this section are placed in the editor's notes that
1236 follow Sections 9-5-1 and 9-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972.

1237 **SECTION 35.** (1) From January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2027:

1238 (a) The person who held the Office of District Attorney
1239 in the Fourth Circuit Court District on December 31, 2026, shall
1240 be the senior full-time legal assistant in the Eleventh Circuit
1241 Court District; and

1242 (b) The person who held the Office of District Attorney
1243 in the Twenty-second Circuit Court District on December 31, 2026,
1244 shall be the senior full-time legal assistant in the Sixth Circuit
1245 Court District.

1246 (2) The annual salary of the senior full-time legal
1247 assistants shall be as provided for a full-time district attorney
1248 in Section 25-3-35(6).

1249 (3) This section shall stand repealed on January 1, 2028.

1250 **SECTION 36.** On January 1, 2027, the Office of District
1251 Attorney for the Fourth Circuit Court District created by this act
1252 shall be filled by the person who holds the Office of District
1253 Attorney for the Twenty-third Circuit Court District on December
1254 31, 2026. Such person shall serve as the District Attorney for

1255 the Fourth Circuit Court District until a successor for such
1256 office, elected in the November 2027 general election, assumes the
1257 office on January 1, 2028.

1258 **SECTION 37.** On January 1, 2027, the Office of District
1259 Attorney for the Fifth Circuit Court District, Sixth Circuit Court
1260 District, Tenth Circuit Court District, Eleventh Circuit Court
1261 District, Fourteenth Circuit Court District, Fifteenth Circuit
1262 Court District, Sixteenth Circuit Court District, Seventeenth
1263 Circuit Court District, Eighteenth Circuit Court District, and
1264 Nineteenth Circuit Court District created by this act shall be
1265 filled by the person who holds the office of district attorney for
1266 each respective circuit court district on December 31, 2026. Such
1267 person shall serve as the district attorney for the circuit court
1268 district created by this act until a successor for such office,
1269 elected in the November 2027 general election, assumes the office
1270 on January 1, 2028.

1271 **SECTION 38.** Candidates for the offices of district attorney
1272 created by this act shall run for office in the general election
1273 to be conducted November 2027. Candidates shall file as is
1274 otherwise provided by law for district attorneys. The district
1275 attorney elected shall serve a four-year term to begin January 1,
1276 2028, and the term of the office shall thereafter be as is
1277 provided for district attorneys generally.

1278 **SECTION 39.** Candidates for the chancellorships and the
1279 circuit judgeships created by this act shall run for those offices
1280 in the general election for judicial officers to be conducted in

1281 November 2026. Candidates shall file as is provided in Section
1282 23-15-977, and shall run for office and be elected as provided in
1283 Sections 23-15-974 through 23-15-985, which constitute the
1284 Nonpartisan Judicial Election Act. The judges elected shall serve
1285 four-year terms to begin January 1, 2027, and the terms of those
1286 offices shall thereafter be as provided for chancellors and
1287 circuit judges generally.

1288 **SECTION 40.** Section 25-31-37, Mississippi Code of 1972,
1289 which authorizes the appointment of two (2) full-time assistant
1290 district attorneys and one (1) full-time criminal investigator for
1291 the Seventh Circuit Court District, shall stand repealed.

1292 **SECTION 41.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
1293 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO REDISTRIBUTE THE CIRCUIT AND CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 152 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890;
3 TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD COVINGTON
4 COUNTY, SIMPSON COUNTY, AND SMITH COUNTY TO THE SECOND CHANCERY
5 COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE TWO CHANCELLORS WITH RESIDENCY
6 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECOND CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND
7 SECTION 9-5-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD CARROLL COUNTY TO
8 THE THIRD CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO REMOVE DESOTO COUNTY FROM
9 THE THIRD CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO DELETE THE SUBDISTRICTS FROM
10 THE THIRD CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-13,
11 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THERE SHALL BE TWO
12 CHANCELLORS FOR THE THIRD CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND
13 SECTION 9-5-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REMOVE THE CURRENT
14 COUNTIES FROM THE FOURTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO ADD FORREST
15 COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, AND STONE COUNTY TO THE FOURTH CHANCERY
16 COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
17 TO REMOVE CARROLL COUNTY FROM THE SIXTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT;
18 TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REMOVE STONE
19 COUNTY FROM THE EIGHTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION
20 9-5-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY

21 AND WALTHALL COUNTY TO THE TENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO
22 REMOVE FORREST COUNTY AND PERRY COUNTY FROM THE TENTH CHANCERY
23 COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-36, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
24 TO REVISE THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CHANCELLORS ELECTED
25 FROM THE TENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-41,
26 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD DESOTO COUNTY TO THE THIRTEENTH
27 CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THERE SHALL BE THREE
28 CHANCELLORS FOR THE THIRTEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND
29 SECTION 9-5-47, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD LAWRENCE COUNTY
30 TO THE FIFTEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THERE
31 SHALL BE TWO CHANCELLORS FOR THE FIFTEENTH CHANCERY COURT
32 DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-49, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
33 REMOVE GEORGE COUNTY AND GREENE COUNTY FROM THE SIXTEENTH CHANCERY
34 COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-51, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
35 TO ADD AMITE COUNTY, FRANKLIN COUNTY AND PIKE COUNTY TO THE
36 SEVENTEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO REVISE THE SUBDISTRICTS IN
37 THE SEVENTEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-55,
38 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD GEORGE COUNTY AND GREENE COUNTY
39 TO THE NINETEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THERE
40 SHALL BE TWO CHANCELLORS FOR THE NINETEENTH CHANCERY COURT
41 DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ELECTION OF
42 CHANCELLORS FOR THE NINETEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND
43 SECTION 9-7-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REMOVE THE CURRENT
44 COUNTIES AND SUBDISTRICTS FROM THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT;
45 TO ADD DESOTO COUNTY TO THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO
46 AMEND SECTION 9-7-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT
47 THERE SHALL BE THREE CIRCUIT JUDGES FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT
48 DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
49 REMOVE WEBSTER COUNTY FROM THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO
50 AMEND SECTION 9-7-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD CLAIBORNE
51 COUNTY, JEFFERSON COUNTY AND PIKE COUNTY TO THE SIXTH CIRCUIT
52 COURT DISTRICT; TO REVISE THE SUBDISTRICTS IN THE SIXTH CIRCUIT
53 COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
54 TO REMOVE WAYNE COUNTY FROM THE TENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO
55 AMEND SECTION 9-7-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD LEFLORE
56 COUNTY, SUNFLOWER COUNTY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY TO THE ELEVENTH
57 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO DELETE THE SUBDISTRICTS FROM THE
58 ELEVENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-34,
59 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THERE SHALL BE FOUR
60 JUDGES FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION
61 9-7-39, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REMOVE PIKE COUNTY AND
62 WALTHALL COUNTY FROM THE FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO ADD
63 COPIAH COUNTY AND LAWRENCE COUNTY TO THE FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT
64 DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
65 ADD WALTHALL COUNTY TO THE FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO
66 REMOVE LAWRENCE COUNTY FROM THE FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT;
67 TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-42, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE
68 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JUDGES ELECTED FROM THE FIFTEENTH
69 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT TO CONFORM TO THE REMOVAL OF LAWRENCE
70 COUNTY; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD
71 WEBSTER COUNTY TO THE SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND
72 SECTION 9-7-44, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE RESIDENCY

73 REQUIREMENT FOR THE ELECTION OF CIRCUIT JUDGES IN THE SIXTEENTH
74 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT IN CONFORMITY TO THE ADDITION OF WEBSTER
75 COUNTY; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-47, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ADD
76 GEORGE COUNTY, GREENE COUNTY, AND WAYNE COUNTY TO THE EIGHTEENTH
77 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THERE SHALL BE TWO CIRCUIT
78 JUDGES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE
79 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JUDGES ELECTED FOR THE EIGHTEENTH
80 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-49, MISSISSIPPI CODE
81 OF 1972, TO REMOVE GEORGE COUNTY AND GREENE COUNTY FROM THE
82 NINETEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; TO DELETE LANGUAGE GOVERNING
83 THE AMOUNT OF LOCAL CONTRIBUTION TO SUPPORT THE NINETEENTH CIRCUIT
84 COURT DISTRICT; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-7-57, 9-7-63 AND 9-7-64,
85 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST AND
86 TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE SECTIONS
87 SHALL REPEAL ON A CERTAIN DATE; TO PROVIDE THAT REVISED PRECINCTS
88 ARE FROM THE 2010 CENSUS; TO REQUIRE THE STANDING JOINT
89 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT TO ASSIST THE COUNTIES IN
90 IDENTIFYING THE BOUNDARIES OF SUBDISTRICTS; TO AMEND SECTION
91 25-31-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL
92 ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO THE TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT COURT
93 DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS TO
94 THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT ALREADY PROVIDED IN SECTION
95 25-31-37 WHICH IS REPEALED BY THIS ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-10,
96 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THE TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT
97 COURT DISTRICT WITH AN ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR; TO
98 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS TO THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT
99 COURT DISTRICT ALREADY PROVIDED IN SECTION 25-31-37 WHICH IS
100 REPEALED BY THIS ACT; TO REPEAL SECTION 25-31-37, MISSISSIPPI CODE
101 OF 1972, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT
102 ATTORNEYS AND A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT
103 COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE SENIOR FULL-TIME LEGAL ASSISTANTS IN
104 THE ELEVENTH AND SIXTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS FOR A ONE-YEAR
105 PERIOD; TO PROVIDE THE PROCEDURE TO FILL THE OFFICES OF DISTRICT
106 ATTORNEY AND THE JUDICIAL OFFICES CREATED BY VIRTUE OF THIS ACT;
107 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

SS26\HB722A.10J

Amanda White
Secretary of the Senate