

By: Representative Steverson

To: Apportionment and
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 914

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-807, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT ANY CANDIDATE WHO FILES A TERMINATION REPORT WHILE
3 CAMPAIGNING BEFORE AN ELECTION SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE
4 OFFICE HE OR SHE SOUGHT, AND HIS OR HER NAME SHALL BE REMOVED FROM
5 THE BALLOT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-807, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 23-15-807. (a) Each candidate or political committee shall
10 file reports of contributions and disbursements in accordance with
11 the provisions of this section. All candidates or political
12 committees required to report such contributions and disbursements
13 may terminate the obligation to report only upon submitting a
14 final report that contributions will no longer be received or
15 disbursements made and that the candidate or committee has no
16 outstanding debts or obligations. The candidate, treasurer or
17 chief executive officer shall sign the report. Any candidate who
18 files a termination report while campaigning before an election
19 shall be disqualified from the office he or she sought, and his or



her name shall be removed from the ballot. The Secretary of State shall ensure that no candidate continues to campaign after he or she has filed a termination report.

(b) Candidates seeking election, or nomination for election, and political committees making expenditures to influence or attempt to influence voters for or against the nomination for election of one or more candidates or balloted measures at such election, shall file the following reports:

(i) In any calendar year during which there is a regularly scheduled election, a pre-election report shall be filed no later than the seventh day before any election in which the candidate or political committee has accepted contributions or made expenditures and shall be completed as of the tenth day before the election;

(ii) In 1987 and every fourth year thereafter, periodic reports shall be filed no later than the tenth day after April 30, May 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, and shall be completed as of the last day of each period;

(iii) In any calendar years except 1987 and except every fourth year thereafter, a report covering the calendar year shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in the requirements of paragraph (i) of this subsection (b), unopposed candidates are not required to file pre-election reports but must file all other



reports required by paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of this subsection
(b).

(c) All candidates for judicial office as defined in Section 23-15-975, or their political committees, shall file periodic reports in the year in which they are to be elected no later than the tenth day after April 30, May 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31. Candidates for judicial office shall not be required to file an annual report during an election year, but shall file an annual report in all other years.

(d) Each report under this article shall disclose:

(i) For the reporting period and the calendar year, the total amount of all contributions and the total amount of all expenditures of the candidate or reporting committee, including those required to be identified pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this subsection (d) as well as the total of all other contributions and expenditures during the calendar year. The reports shall be cumulative during the calendar year to which they relate;

(ii) The identification of:

1. Each person or political committee who makes a contribution to the reporting candidate or political committee during the reporting period, whose contribution or contributions within the calendar year have an aggregate amount or value in excess of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) together with the date and amount of any such contribution;



69 2. Each person or organization, candidate or
70 political committee who receives an expenditure, payment or other
71 transfer from the reporting candidate, political committee or its
72 agent, employee, designee, contractor, consultant or other person
73 or persons acting in its behalf during the reporting period when
74 the expenditure, payment or other transfer to the person,
75 organization, candidate or political committee within the calendar
76 year have an aggregate value or amount in excess of Two Hundred
77 Dollars (\$200.00) together with the date and amount of the
78 expenditure;

79 (iii) The total amount of cash on hand of each
80 reporting candidate and reporting political committee;

81 (iv) In addition to the contents of reports specified
82 in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) of this subsection (d), each
83 political party shall disclose:

84 1. Each person or political committee who makes a
85 contribution to a political party during the reporting period and
86 whose contribution or contributions to a political party within
87 the calendar year have an aggregate amount or value in excess of
88 Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), together with the date and amount
89 of the contribution;

90 2. Each person or organization who receives an
91 expenditure or expenditures by a political party during the
92 reporting period when the expenditure or expenditures to the
93 person or organization within the calendar year have an aggregate



value or amount in excess of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00),
together with the date and amount of the expenditure;

(v) Disclosure required under this section of an
expenditure to a credit card issuer, financial institution or
business allowing payments and money transfers to be made over the
Internet must include, by way of detail or separate entry, the
amount of funds passing to each person, business entity or
organization receiving funds from the expenditure.

(e) The appropriate office specified in Section 23-15-805
must be in actual receipt of the reports specified in this article
by 5:00 p.m. on the dates specified in subsection (b) of this
section. If the date specified in subsection (b) of this section
shall fall on a weekend or legal holiday then the report shall be
due in the appropriate office at 5:00 p.m. on the first working
day before the date specified in subsection (b) of this section.
The reporting candidate or reporting political committee shall
ensure that the reports are delivered to the appropriate office by
the filing deadline. The Secretary of State may approve specific
means of electronic transmission of completed campaign finance
disclosure reports, which may include, but not be limited to,
transmission by electronic facsimile (FAX) devices.

(f) (i) If any contribution of more than Two Hundred
Dollars (\$200.00) is received by a candidate or candidate's
political committee after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight
(48) hours before 12:01 a.m. of the day of the election, the



candidate or political committee shall notify the appropriate office designated in Section 23-15-805, within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall include:

1. The name of the receiving candidate;
2. The name of the receiving candidate's political committee, if any;
3. The office sought by the candidate;
4. The identification of the contributor;
5. The date of receipt;
6. The amount of the contribution;
7. If the contribution is in-kind, a description of the in-kind contribution; and
8. The signature of the candidate or the treasurer or chair of the candidate's political organization.

(ii) The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office designated in Section 23-15-805 within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

