To: Elections

By: Senator(s) Blackwell, Younger

SENATE BILL NO. 2060

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-191, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CHANGE THE PRIMARY ELECTION DAY FOR STATEWIDE, STATE DISTRICT, LEGISLATIVE, COUNTY AND COUNTY DISTRICT OFFICES; TO AMEND SECTION 21-9-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-191, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 8 amended as follows:
- 9 23-15-191. The first primary shall be held on the first
- 10 Tuesday after the first Monday of * * * June preceding any regular
- 11 or general election; and the second primary shall be held four (4)
- 12 weeks thereafter. The candidate that receives a majority of the
- 13 votes cast in the election shall be the party nominee. If no
- 14 candidate receives a majority vote at the election, then the two
- 15 (2) candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall have
- 16 their names placed on the ballot for the second primary election
- 17 to be held four (4) weeks later. The candidate who receives the
- 18 most votes in the second primary election shall be the party
- 19 nominee. However, if no candidate receives a majority vote at the

- 20 first primary, and there is a tie in the election of those
- 21 receiving the next highest vote, then those candidates receiving
- 22 the next highest vote and the candidate receiving the highest vote
- 23 shall have their names placed on the ballot for the second primary
- 24 election to be held four (4) weeks later, and whoever receives the
- 25 most votes cast in the second primary election shall be the party
- 26 nominee.
- SECTION 2. Section 21-9-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 28 amended as follows:
- 29 21-9-17. Except as otherwise provided, all candidates for
- 30 mayor and councilmen, or any of them, to be voted for at any
- 31 general or special municipal election, shall be nominated by party
- 32 primary election, and no other name or names shall be placed on
- 33 the official ballot at such general or special election than those
- 34 selected in the manner prescribed herein. Such primary election
- 35 or elections, shall be held not less than ten (10), nor more
- 36 than * * * one hundred sixty (160) days, preceding the general or
- 37 special election, and such primary election or elections shall be
- 38 held and conducted in the manner as near as may be as is provided
- 39 by law for state and county primary elections.
- 40 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 41 and after July 1, 2025.