

SENATE BILL NO. 2631

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS ACT"; TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO WAS DISQUALIFIED AS AN ELECTOR FOR THE  
3 COMMISSION OF NONVIOLENT FELONIOUS CRIMES SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
4 VOTE RESTORED AUTOMATICALLY UPON COMPLETION OF THE SENTENCE,  
5 PAYMENT OF ALL FINES AND RESTITUTION AND A SEVEN-YEAR NONOFFENDING  
6 PERIOD FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF HIS OR HER SENTENCE; TO AMEND  
7 SECTIONS 23-15-11 AND 23-15-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN  
8 CONFORMITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10        **SECTION 1.** (1) This section shall be known and may be cited  
11 as the "Restoration of Voting Rights Act."

19 (i) The individual has fully served all the terms  
20 of his or her sentence, including any term of incarceration,  
21 parole, probation or post-release supervision;



22 (ii) The individual has paid all fees, fines and  
23 restitution associated with the conviction; and  
24 (iii) The individual has remained crime- and  
25 arrest-free in the seven-year period following the full completion  
26 of sentence and any term of incarceration, parole, probation or  
27 post-release supervision.

28 For the purpose of this act, "nonviolent felony" shall be  
29 defined as any felony that does not involve the use or threat of  
30 physical force or violence against another person or result in the  
31 significant harm to individuals or property, as prescribed by law.

41           **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
42       amended as follows:

43           23-15-11. Every inhabitant of this state, except persons  
44 adjudicated to be non compos mentis, who is a citizen of the  
45 United States of America, eighteen (18) years old and upwards, who  
46 has resided in this state for thirty (30) days and for thirty (30)

47 days in the county in which he or she seeks to vote, and for  
48 thirty (30) days in the incorporated municipality in which he or  
49 she seeks to vote, and who has been duly registered as an elector  
50 under Section 23-15-33, and who has never been convicted of vote  
51 fraud or of any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi  
52 Constitution of 1890, shall be a qualified elector in and for the  
53 county, municipality and voting precinct of his or her residence,  
54 and shall be entitled to vote at any election upon compliance with  
55 Section 23-15-563. If the thirtieth day to register before an  
56 election falls on a Sunday or legal holiday, the registration  
57 applications submitted on the business day immediately following  
58 the Sunday or legal holiday shall be accepted and entered in the  
59 Statewide Elections Management System for the purpose of enabling  
60 voters to vote in the next election. Any person who will be  
61 eighteen (18) years of age or older on or before the date of the  
62 general election and who is duly registered to vote not less than  
63 thirty (30) days before the primary election associated with the  
64 general election, may vote in the primary election even though the  
65 person has not reached his or her eighteenth birthday at the time  
66 that the person seeks to vote at the primary election. If a  
67 person has been convicted of a nonviolent felony crime or crimes  
68 for which disenfranchisement has been prescribed by the  
69 Mississippi Constitution of 1890 or by statute, but the individual  
70 is eligible to vote under the provisions of Section 1 of this act,  
71 the person shall not be disqualified as an elector due to the



72     conviction. No others than those specified in this section shall  
73     be entitled, or shall be allowed, to vote at any election.

74     **SECTION 3.** Section 23-15-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
75     amended as follows:

76         23-15-19. Any person who has been convicted of vote fraud or  
77     any crime listed in Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890,  
78     such crimes defined as "disenfranchising," shall not be  
79     registered, or if registered the name of the person shall be  
80     removed from the Statewide Elections Management System by the  
81     registrar or the election commissioners of the county of his or  
82     her residence. Whenever any person shall be convicted in the  
83     circuit court of his or her county of a disenfranchising crime,  
84     the county registrar shall thereupon remove his or her name from  
85     the Statewide Elections Management System; and whenever any person  
86     shall be convicted of a disenfranchising crime in any other court  
87     of any county, the presiding judge of the court shall, on demand,  
88     certify the fact in writing to the registrar of the county in  
89     which the voter resides, who shall thereupon remove the name of  
90     the person from the Statewide Elections Management System and  
91     retain the certificate as a record of his or her office. If a  
92     person has been convicted of a nonviolent felony crime or crimes  
93     for which disenfranchisement has been prescribed by the  
94     Mississippi Constitution of 1890 or by statute, but the individual  
95     is eligible to vote under the provisions of Section 1 of this act,  
96     the person shall not be disqualified as an elector due to the



97     conviction and shall have his or her name restored to the  
98     Statewide Elections Management System.

99       **SECTION 4.**   This act shall take effect and be in force from  
100 and after the date that the constitutional amendment proposed in  
101 Senate Concurrent Resolution No. \_\_\_\_, 2025 Regular Session, is  
102 approved by the electorate.

