

By: Senator(s) Wiggins

To: Judiciary, Division A

SENATE BILL NO. 2768  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REDISTRICIT THE CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS OF THE  
2 STATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 152 OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
3 CONSTITUTION OF 1890; TO AMEND SECTION 9-5-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
4 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE COUNTIES AND INDIVIDUAL PRECINCTS IN  
5 THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE THOSE COUNTIES AND PRECINCTS AS THEY EXISTED  
6 ON JULY 1, 2025; TO PROVIDE THAT A CHANCELLOR SHALL BE A RESIDENT  
7 OF THE DISTRICT IN WHICH HE SERVES BY THE DATE ON WHICH THE PERSON  
8 QUALIFIES AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE JUDICIAL OFFICE; TO AMEND SECTION  
9 9-5-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE CRITERIA FOR  
10 THE NUMBER OF CHANCELLORSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE STATE SHALL BE  
11 DETERMINED BY THE LEGISLATURE; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-9, 9-5-11,  
12 9-5-13, 9-5-15, 9-5-17, 9-5-19, 9-5-21, 9-5-22, 9-5-23, 9-5-25,  
13 9-5-27, 9-5-31, 9-5-33, 9-5-35, 9-5-36, 9-5-41, 9-5-43, 9-5-47,  
14 9-5-49, 9-5-50, 9-5-51 AND 9-5-55, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
15 REVISE PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATED TO THE NUMBER OF JUDGES,  
16 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS, GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES, AND SUBDISTRICT  
17 BOUNDARIES OF THE SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH,  
18 EIGHTH, NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH,  
19 SIXTEENTH, SEVENTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS; TO  
20 PROVIDE THE PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE  
21 JUDICIAL OFFICES CREATED BY VIRTUE OF THIS ACT; TO AMEND SECTION  
22 9-5-37, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO UPDATE PRECINCT GEOGRAPHY IN  
23 THE ELEVENTH CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN  
24 PROCEDURES TO EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES OF THE JUDICIAL  
25 REDISTRICITING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1544, 2025 REGULAR SESSION, AND  
26 THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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



30 9-5-1. A chancellor shall be elected for and from each of  
31 the chancery court districts as provided in this chapter and the  
32 listing of individual counties and precincts shall be those  
33 counties and precincts as they existed on \* \* \* July 1, \* \* \*  
34 2025. He shall hold court in any other district with the consent  
35 of the chancellor thereof when in their opinion the public  
36 interest may be thereby promoted. The terms of all chancellors  
37 elected at the regular election for the year 1930 shall begin on  
38 the first day of January, 1931, and their terms of office shall  
39 continue for four (4) years. A chancellor shall be a resident of  
40 the district in which he serves by the date on which the person  
41 qualifies as a candidate for the judicial office but shall not be  
42 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is  
43 divided into subdistricts.

44 **SECTION 2.** Section 9-5-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
45 amended as follows:

46 9-5-3. (1) The state shall be divided into an appropriate  
47 number of chancery court districts, severally numbered and  
48 composed of the counties as set forth in the sections which  
49 follow. A court to be styled "The Chancery Court of the County of  
50 \_\_\_\_" shall be held in each county, and within each judicial  
51 district of a county having two (2) judicial districts, at least  
52 twice a year. Court shall be held in chancery court districts  
53 consisting of a single county on the same dates state agencies and  
54 political subdivisions are open for business excluding legal



55 holidays. The dates upon which terms shall commence and the  
56 number of days for which terms shall continue in chancery court  
57 districts consisting of more than one (1) county shall be set by  
58 order of the chancellor in accordance with the provisions of  
59 subsection (2) of this section. A matter in court may extend past  
60 a term if the interest of justice so requires.

61 (2) An order establishing the commencement and continuation  
62 of terms of court for each of the counties within a chancery court  
63 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered  
64 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately  
65 preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to  
66 become effective. Notice of the dates upon which terms of court  
67 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall  
68 continue in each of the counties within a chancery court district  
69 shall be posted in the office of the chancery clerk of each county  
70 within the district and mailed to the office of the Secretary of  
71 State for publication and distribution to all Mississippi Bar  
72 members. If an order is not timely entered, the terms of court  
73 for each of the counties within the chancery court district shall  
74 remain unchanged for the next calendar year.

75 (3) The number of chancellorships for each chancery court  
76 district shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the  
77 following criteria:

78 (a) The population of the district;

79 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;



80 (c) The caseload of each chancellor in the district;

81 (d) The geographic area of the district;

82 (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the  
83 court personnel of the district; and

84 (f) Any other appropriate criteria, as determined by  
85 the Legislature.

86 (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi  
87 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine  
88 the appropriate:

89 (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for  
90 applying the above criteria;

91 (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified  
92 data; and

93 (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.

94 (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of  
95 chancellor, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the  
96 powers, duties and emoluments of those offices except that the  
97 chancellor who has been for the longest time continuously a  
98 chancellor of that court or, should no chancellor have served  
99 longer in office than the others, the chancellor who has been for  
100 the longest time a member of The Mississippi Bar shall be the  
101 senior chancellor. The senior chancellor shall have the right to  
102 assign causes and dockets and to set terms in districts consisting  
103 of more than one (1) county.



104       **SECTION 3.** Section 9-5-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
105 amended as follows:

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

107       9-5-9. The Second Chancery Court District is composed of the  
108 following counties:

- 109           (a) Jasper County;
- 110           (b) Newton County; and
- 111           (c) Scott County.

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

114       9-5-9. (1) The Second Chancery Court District is composed  
115 of the following counties:

- 116           (a) Covington County;
- 117           ( \* \* \*b) Jasper County;
- 118           (c) Jefferson Davis County;
- 119           ( \* \* \*d) Newton County; \* \* \*
- 120           (e) Simpson County;
- 121           ( \* \* \*f) Scott County \* \* \* ; and
- 122           (g) Smith County.

123       (2) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Second  
124 Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be  
125 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment  
126 and election only as "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."  
127 The chancellor to fill Place One must reside in either Jasper  
128 County, Newton County or Scott County. The chancellor to fill



Place Two must reside in either Covington County, Jefferson Davis County, Simpson County, or Smith County. The chancellor to fill Place Three may reside in any county in the district.

**SECTION 4.** Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

- (a) DeSoto County;
- (b) Grenada County;
- (c) Montgomery County;
- (d) Panola County;
- (e) Tate County; and
- (f) Yalobusha County.

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

- (a) Subdistrict 3-1 shall consist of DeSoto County.
- (b) Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

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

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

- (a) \* \* \* Carroll County;



154 (b) Grenada County;  
155 (c) Montgomery County;  
156 (d) Panola County;  
157 (e) Tallahatchie County;  
158 ( \* \* \*f) Tate County; and  
159 ( \* \* \*g) Yalobusha County.

160 \* \* \*

161 **SECTION 5.** Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
162 amended as follows:

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

164 9-5-13. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
165 Third Chancery Court District.

166 (2) (a) The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected  
167 from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2  
168 shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola  
169 County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.

170 (b) For purposes of appointment and election, the three  
171 (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. The  
172 chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated only as  
173 "Place One," and the chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2 shall be  
174 denominated only as "Place Two" and "Place Three."

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

177 9-5-13. (1) There shall be \* \* \* two (2) chancellors for  
178 the Third Chancery Court District.



(2) \* \* \* For purposes of appointment and election only,  
the \* \* \* two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct  
and denominated as "Place One \* \* \*" and "Place Two \* \* \*." \* \* \*  
The chancellor of Place One must reside in Tate County, Panola  
County or Yalobusha County. The chancellor of Place Two must  
reside in Carroll County, Grenada County, Montgomery County or  
Tallahatchie County.

**SECTION 6.** Section 9-5-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
amended as follows:

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

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

- (a) Amite County;
- (b) Franklin County;
- (c) Pike County; and
- (d) Walthall County.

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

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

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

- (a) Adams County;





204 ( \* \* \*b) Amite County;  
205 ( \* \* \*c) Franklin County;  
206 (d) Jefferson County;  
207 ( \* \* \*e) Pike County; and  
208 ( \* \* \*f) \* \* \* Wilkinson County.

209 (2) There shall be \* \* \* three (3) chancellors for the  
210 Fourth Chancery Court District. The \* \* \* three (3)  
211 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
212 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," \* \* \*  
213 "Place Two \* \* \*" and "Place Three." The chancellor for Place One  
214 must reside in Adams County or Jefferson County. The chancellor  
215 for Place Two must reside in Amite County or Wilkinson County.  
216 The chancellor for Place Three must reside in Franklin County or  
217 Pike County.

218 **SECTION 7.** Section 9-5-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
219 amended as follows:

220 **[Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

221 9-5-17. (1) The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed  
222 of Hinds County.

223 (2) The Fifth Chancery Court District shall be divided into  
224 the following four (4) subdistricts:

225 (a) Subdistrict 5-1 shall consist of the following  
226 precincts in Hinds County: 1, 2, 4, \* \* \* 6, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33,  
227 34, 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92,  
228 93, 96 and 97.



229 (b) Subdistrict 5-2 shall consist of the following  
230 precincts in Hinds County: 11, 12, 13, 14, \* \* \* 16, 17, 23, 27,  
231 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,  
232 Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.

233 (c) Subdistrict 5-3 shall consist of the following  
234 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,  
235 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63,  
236 64, \* \* \* 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 86 \* \* \* and 89 \* \* \*.

237 (d) Subdistrict 5-4 shall consist of the following  
238 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram  
239 1, Byram 2, Byram 3, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2,  
240 Clinton 3, Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Clinton 7, Dry Grove,  
241 Edwards, Learned, Old Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2,  
242 Spring Ridge, St. Thomas, Terry 1, Terry 2, Utica 1 and Utica 2.

243 **[From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as**  
244 **follows:]**

245 9-5-17. \* \* \* The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed  
246 of Hinds County.

247 \* \* \*

248 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
249 amended as follows:

250 **[Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

251 9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the  
252 Fifth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be  
253 elected from each subdistrict.



(2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the court.

**[From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the Fifth Chancery Court District. \* \* \* The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four."

(2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the court.

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

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



278 9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the  
279 following counties:

- 280 (a) Attala County;
- 281 (b) Carroll County;
- 282 (c) Choctaw County;
- 283 (d) Kemper County;
- 284 (e) Neshoba County; and
- 285 (f) Winston County.

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

288 9-5-21. The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the  
289 following counties:

- 290 (a) Attala County;
- 291 \* \* \*
- 292 ( \* \* \*b) Choctaw County;
- 293 ( \* \* \*c) Kemper County;
- 294 ( \* \* \*d) Neshoba County; \* \* \*
- 295 (e) Webster County; and
- 296 (f) Winston County.

297 **SECTION 10.** Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
298 amended as follows:

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

300 9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the  
301 Sixth Chancery Court District.



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

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

9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Sixth Chancery Court District.

(2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor for "Place One" must reside in Attala County, Choctaw County or Webster County. The chancellor for "Place Two" must reside in Winston County, Neshoba County or Kemper County.

**SECTION 11.** Section 9-5-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

9-5-23. (1) The Seventh Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

- (a) Bolivar County;
- (b) Coahoma County;
- (c) Leflore County;
- (d) Quitman County;
- (e) Tallahatchie County; and
- (f) Tunica County.



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

(a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of Bolivar County and Coahoma County;

(b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of Leflore County, Quitman County, Tallahatchie County and Tunica County.

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

9-5-23. (1) The Seventh Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

(a) Bolivar County;

(b) Coahoma County;

(c) Leflore County;

(d) Quitman County;

(e) \* \* \* Sunflower County; and

(f) Tunica County.

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

(a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of Bolivar County, Tunica County, Quitman County, and Coahoma County;

(b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of Leflore County \* \* \* and \* \* \* Sunflower County.

**SECTION 12.** Section 9-5-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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



9-5-25. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Seventh Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from Subdistrict 7-1 and shall be denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," and two (2) chancellors shall be elected from Subdistrict 7-2 and shall be denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place Two" and "Place Three."

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

9-5-25. There shall be \* \* \* two (2) chancellors for the Seventh Chancery Court District. The \* \* \* two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from each subdistrict \* \* \*.

**SECTION 13.** Section 9-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

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

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



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

- (a) Hancock County; and
- (b) Harrison County \* \* \*.

\* \* \*

**SECTION 14.** Section 9-5-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

- (a) Humphreys County;
- (b) Issaquena County;
- (c) Sharkey County;
- (d) Sunflower County;
- (e) Warren County; and
- (f) Washington County.

(2) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be divided into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

(a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of the following precincts in the following counties:

(i) Sunflower County: Boyer-Linn, Drew, Fairview-Hale, Indianola 2 East\*, Indianola 3 North\*, Indianola 3 Northeast\*, Indianola 3 South\*, Rome, Ruleville, Ruleville North and Sunflower Plantation; and





399 (ii) Washington County: American Legion, Brent  
400 Center, Buster Brown Community Center, Darlove Baptist Church\*,  
401 Elks Club, Extension Building, Grace Methodist Church\*, Greenville  
402 Industrial College, Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland Rotary  
403 Club, Metcalf City Hall and Potter House Church.

404 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of Humphreys County  
405 and the following precincts in the following counties:

406 (i) Sunflower County: Doddsville, Indianola 2  
407 East\*, Indianola 2 West, Indianola 3 North\*, Indianola 3  
408 Northeast\*, Indianola 3 South\*, Indianola Southeast, Inverness,  
409 Moorhead, Sunflower 3 and Sunflower 4; and

410 (ii) Washington County: Arcola City Hall, Christ  
411 Wesleyan Methodist Church, Darlove Baptist Church\*, Glen Allan  
412 Health Clinic, Grace Methodist Church\*, Hollandale City Hall, St.  
413 James Episcopal Church, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Tampa Drive and  
414 Ward's Recreation Center.

415 (c) Subdistrict 9-3 shall consist of Issaquena County,  
416 Sharkey County and Warren County.

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

419 9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed  
420 of the following counties:

421 (a) Humphreys County;

422 (b) Issaquena County;

423 (c) Sharkey County;



424 \* \* \*

425 ( \* \* \*d) Warren County; and

426 ( \* \* \*e) Washington County.

427 (2) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be divided  
428 into \* \* \* two (2) subdistricts as follows:

429 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of \* \* \* Washington  
430 County and Humphreys County; and

431 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of \* \* \* Issaquena  
432 County, Sharkey County and Warren County.

433 \* \* \*

434 **SECTION 15.** Section 9-5-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
435 amended as follows:

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

437 9-5-33. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Ninth  
438 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from  
439 each subdistrict.

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

442 9-5-33. There shall be \* \* \* two (2) chancellors for the  
443 Ninth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be  
444 elected from each subdistrict.

445 **SECTION 16.** Section 9-5-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
446 amended as follows:

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



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

- (a) Forrest County;
- (b) Lamar County;
- (c) Marion County;
- (d) Pearl River County; and
- (e) Perry County.

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

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

\* \* \*

- ( \* \* \*a) Lamar County;
- ( \* \* \*b) Marion County;
- ( \* \* \*c) Pearl River County; and
- ( \* \* \*d) \* \* \* Walthall County.

**SECTION 17.** Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

(2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may be a resident



of any county in the district. The chancellor to fill Place Two must be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or Perry County. The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a resident of Forrest County. Election of the four (4) offices of chancellor shall be by election to be held in every county within the Tenth Chancery Court District.

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

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

(2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may be a resident of any county in the district. The chancellor to fill Place Two must be a resident of Lamar \* \* \* County. The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a resident of \* \* \* Pearl River County. \* \* \*

(3) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the powers and duties of the chancellors other than as cast upon them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the Tenth Chancery Court District, in the discretion of the senior chancellor, may be divided into separate divisions for the efficient handling of cases based on subject matter, judicial economy, or other factors by entry of an order upon the minutes.



SECTION 18. Section 9-5-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

- (a) Covington County;
- (b) Jefferson Davis County;
- (c) Lawrence County;
- (d) Simpson County; and
- (e) Smith County.

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

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

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

- (a) \* \* \* Forrest County;
- (b) \* \* \* Perry County; and
- (c) \* \* \* Stone County \* \* \* .

\* \* \*

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



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

523       **SECTION 19.** Section 9-5-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
524 amended as follows:

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

526       9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is  
527 composed of the following counties:

- 528           (a) Chickasaw County;
- 529           (b) Clay County;
- 530           (c) Lowndes County;
- 531           (d) Noxubee County;
- 532           (e) Oktibbeha County; and
- 533           (f) Webster County.

534       (2) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be divided  
535 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

536           (a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County,  
537 Webster County and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County:  
538 Bell Schoolhouse\*, Bradley, Center Grove, Central Starkville\*,  
539 Craig Springs, Double Springs, East Starkville\*, Gillespie Street  
540 Center\*, Maben, North Adaton, North Longview, North Starkville 2\*,  
541 North Starkville 3, Northeast Starkville, Self Creek, South  
542 Adaton, South Longview, South Starkville\*, Sturgis and West  
543 Starkville\*.

544           (b) Subdistrict 14-2 shall consist of the following  
545 precincts in the following counties:



546 (i) Clay County: Cedar Bluff, Central West Point,  
547 East West Point, Siloam, South West Point and Vinton; and

548 (ii) Lowndes County: Air Base A, Air Base B, Air  
549 Base C, Air Base D, Air Base E, Brandon A, Brandon B, Brandon C,  
550 Brandon D, Caledonia, Columbus High School A, Columbus High School  
551 B, Columbus High School C, Columbus High School D, Dowdle Gas  
552 Training Center B, Fairgrounds C, Fairgrounds E, Fairgrounds F,  
553 Hunt C, Lee Middle School, Mitchell A, New Hope A, New Hope B, New  
554 Hope C, New Hope D, New Hope E, Rural Hill A, Rural Hill B, Rural  
555 Hill C, Sale A, Sale B, Sale C, Steens A, Steens B, Steens C,  
556 Trinity B, Union Academy B, Union Academy C and University A.

557 (c) Subdistrict 14-3 shall consist of Noxubee County  
558 and the following precincts in the following counties:

559 (i) Clay County: Cairo, Caradine, North West  
560 Point, Pheba, Pine Bluff, Tibbee, Union Star and West West Point;

561 (ii) Lowndes County: Artesia, Coleman A, Coleman  
562 B, Crawford A, Fairgrounds A, Fairgrounds B, Fairgrounds D,  
563 Fairgrounds G, Hunt A, Hunt B, Mitchell B, New Hope F, Plum Grove  
564 A, Plum Grove B, Plum Grove C, Propst Park Community Hut, Trinity  
565 A, Union Academy A, University B, West Lowndes A and West Lowndes  
566 B; and

567 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Bell Schoolhouse\*,  
568 Central Starkville\*, East Starkville\*, Gillespie Street Center\*,  
569 Hickory Grove, North Starkville 2\*, Oktoc, Osborn, Sessums, South  
570 Starkville\*, Southeast Oktibbeha and West Starkville\*.



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

9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

- (a) Chickasaw County;
- (b) Clay County;
- (c) Lowndes County;
- (d) Noxubee County; and
- (e) Oktibbeha County \* \* \*.

\* \* \*

(2) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be divided into three (3) subdistricts as follows:

(a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County \* \* \* and the following precincts in:

(i) Oktibbeha County: \* \* \* Center Grove/North Adaton, Central \* \* \* Starkville, Craig Springs/South Bradley, \* \* \* East Starkville\*, \* \* \* Hickory Grove/Southeast Oktibbeha\*, Maben, \* \* \* Needmore Voting District\*, North Longview, North Starkville 2\*, North Starkville 3, \* \* \* Self Creek/Double Springs, South Adaton, South Longview, South Starkville\*, Sturgis/North Bradley and West Starkville\*; and

(ii) Clay County: Pheba\* and Pine Bluff.

(b) Subdistrict 14-2 shall consist of the following precincts in the following counties:





595 (i) Clay County: Cedar Bluff, Central West Point,  
596 East West Point, Siloam, South West Point and Vinton; and

597 (ii) Lowndes County: Air Base \* \* \*,  
598 Brandon \* \* \*, Caledonia, \* \* \* East Columbus Gym, \* \* \* First  
599 Assembly, \* \* \* Immanuel, \* \* \* New Hope \* \* \*, Plum Grove\* Rural  
600 Hill \* \* \* Southside Church\*, \* \* \* Steens \* \* \*, Townsend Park,  
601 Trinity \* \* \* and University \* \* \*.

602 (c) Subdistrict 14-3 shall consist of Noxubee County  
603 and the following precincts in the following counties:

604 (i) Clay County: Cairo, Caradine, North West  
605 Point, Pheba\*, \* \* \* Tibbee, Union Star and West West Point;

606 (ii) Lowndes County: 15th Street Church, Artesia,  
607 Coleman \* \* \* Crawford \* \* \*, \* \* \* Hunt \* \* \* Plum  
608 Grove\* \* \* \*, \* \* \* Southside Church\* and West Lowndes \* \* \*; and

609 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Bell \* \* \* Schoolhouse,  
610 Central Starkville\*, East Starkville\*, \* \* \* Hickory  
611 Grove/Southeast Oktibbeha\*, Needmore Voting District, North  
612 Starkville 2\*, Oktoc, Osborn, Sessums, South Starkville\* \* \* \* and  
613 West Starkville\*.

614 **SECTION 20.** Section 9-5-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
615 amended as follows:

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

617 9-5-47. The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is composed of  
618 the following counties:

619 (a) Copiah County; and



(b) Lincoln County.

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

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

(a) Claiborne County;

( \* \* \*b) Copiah County; \* \* \*

(c) Lawrence County; and

( \* \* \*d) Lincoln County.

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

**SECTION 21.** Section 9-5-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

9-5-49. (1) The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

(a) George County;

(b) Greene County; and

(c) Jackson County.

(2) The local contributions required for the maintenance of the Sixteenth Chancery Court District shall be paid on a pro rata basis by each county in the district based on the proportion of that county's population to the district as a whole according to



the most recent federal decennial census. The amount of the local contributions under this subsection (2) shall be determined by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors to be ordered by the senior chancellor of the Sixteenth Chancery Court District.

**[From January 1, 2027, and until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

9-5-49. (1) The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of the following counties:

(a) George County; and

\* \* \*

( \* \* \*b) Jackson County.

(2) The local contributions required for the maintenance of the Sixteenth Chancery Court District shall be paid on a pro rata basis by each county in the district based on the proportion of that county's population to the district as a whole according to the most recent federal decennial census. The amount of the local contributions under this subsection (2) shall be determined by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors to be ordered by the senior chancellor of the Sixteenth Chancery Court District.

**[From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

9-5-49. The Sixteenth Chancery Court District \* \* \* shall be Jackson County.

**SECTION 22.** Section 9-5-50, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:



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

9-5-50. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Sixteenth Chancery Court District.

(2) The three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."

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

9-5-50. (1) There shall be \* \* \* four (4) chancellors for the Sixteenth Chancery Court District.

(2) The \* \* \* four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two," \* \* \* "Place Three \* \* \*" and "Place Four."

**SECTION 23.** Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

- (a) Adams County;
- (b) Claiborne County;
- (c) Jefferson County; and
- (d) Wilkinson County.

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



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

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

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

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

9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is composed of \* \* \* DeSoto County.

\* \* \*

( \* \* \* 2) There shall be \* \* \* three (3) chancellors for the Seventeenth Chancery Court District. \* \* \* The chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated as "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three." The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Two shall be elected from all of the precincts within the district. Place Three shall be a subdistrict denominated as 17-1 for purposes of appointment and election. The chancellor to fill Place Three shall be elected from the following precincts in



DeSoto County: Horn Lake Central, Horn Lake East, Horn Lake High School\*, Horn Lake Intermediate School, Horn Lake North, Horn Lake West, Northwest Community College\*, Southhaven South and Southhaven West\*

**SECTION 24.** Section 9-5-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

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

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

(a) Jones County; and

(b) Wayne County.

**[From January 1, 2027, and until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]**

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

(a) Greene County;

(b) Jones County; and

( \* \* \*c) Wayne County.

(2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Nineteenth Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor to fill Place One must reside in Jones County, and the chancellor to fill Place Two may reside in any county in the district, except Jones County.



745 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as  
746 follows:]

747 9-5-55. (1) The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is  
748 composed of the following counties:

749 (a) George County;

750 (b) Greene County;

751 (c) Jones County; and

752 ( \* \* \*d) Wayne County.

753 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Nineteenth  
754 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be  
755 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment  
756 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor  
757 to fill Place One must reside in Jones County, and the chancellor  
758 to fill Place Two may reside in any county in the district, except  
759 Jones County.

760 **SECTION 25.** Candidates for the chancellorships created by  
761 this act shall run for those offices in the general election for  
762 judicial officers to be conducted in November 2026. Candidates  
763 shall file as is provided in Section 23-15-977, and shall run for  
764 office and be elected as provided in Sections 23-15-974 through  
765 23-15-985, which constitute the Nonpartisan Judicial Election Act.  
766 The judges elected shall serve four-year terms to begin January 1,  
767 2027, and the terms of those offices shall thereafter be as  
768 provided for chancellors and circuit judges generally.



769           **SECTION 26.** Section 9-5-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
770 amended as follows:

771           9-5-37. (1) The Eleventh Chancery Court District is  
772 composed of the following counties:

- 773           (a) Holmes County;
- 774           (b) Leake County;
- 775           (c) Madison County; and
- 776           (d) Yazoo County.

777           (2) The Eleventh Chancery Court District shall be divided  
778 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

779           (a) Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of Holmes County,  
780 Yazoo County and the following precincts in Madison County: \* \* \*  
781 Anderson Lodge, Canton Bible Church, Canton Community Center,  
782 Ferns Chapel Freewill, Frankin Baptist Church, Madison County  
783 Baptist Family Life Center \* \* \* and Magnolia Heights \* \* \*;

784           (b) Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of Leake County and  
785 the following precincts in Madison County: \* \* \* Camden,  
786 Cameron, \* \* \* First Presbyterian, Canton Catholic Parish Center,  
787 Canton Fire Station #4, Canton National Guard Amory, Canton South  
788 Liberty, Canton St. Paul Methodist, Cedar Grove, \* \* \* China  
789 Grove, Colonial Heights, Couparle, Farmhaven Fire Station,  
790 Fellowship Bible Church, First Baptist, Gluckstadt, Grace  
791 Crossing, Greater Mt. Levi Church, Highland Colony Baptist  
792 Church, \* \* \* Lake Caroline Clubhouse, Mark Apartments, Mount  
793 Hope, New Life, North Bay, \* \* \* Parkway Church, Pleasant Gift





794 Church, Pleasant Green, Ridgeland First Methodist Church, \* \* \*  
795 Ridgeland Recreational Center, Sunnybrook, Tougaloo, \* \* \* Trace  
796 Ridge, Twin Lakes Baptist, Vertical Church, Victory Baptist  
797 Church \* \* \* and Victory Christian.

798       **SECTION 27.** Partial or split precincts are identified in  
799 House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this act by an  
800 asterisk following the designation of the precinct. The Chairmen  
801 of the Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and the House  
802 Judiciary B Committee shall file with the Secretary of State the  
803 Split Precinct Block List developed in conjunction with the  
804 description contained in House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular  
805 Session, and this act that details the portions of the partial or  
806 split precincts, which are contained within a district by census  
807 block number, and such document duly filed with the Secretary of  
808 State is hereby incorporated into and shall be construed to be an  
809 integral part of this act.

810       **SECTION 28.** The boundaries of the judicial districts  
811 described above shall be:

812               (a) The boundaries of the counties listed above as such  
813 boundaries existed on July 1, 2025; and

814               (b) The precinct boundaries along such judicial  
815 district boundaries as the precinct boundaries are contained in  
816 Census Bureau's Public Law 94-171 Geographic Support Products  
817 provided for use with the September 16 data deliveries officially



818 called the "2020 Census State Redistricting Data (Public Law  
819 94-171) Summary Files."

820       **SECTION 29.** (1) House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session,  
821 and this act shall be liberally construed to effectuate the  
822 purposes thereof and to redistrict the Judicial districts of this  
823 state in compliance with legal requirements.

824       (2) If the districts described in House Bill No. 1544, 2025  
825 Regular Session, or this act do not carry out the purposes thereof  
826 because of unintentional omissions, duplications, overlapping  
827 areas, erroneous nomenclature, lack of adequate descriptions of  
828 political subdivisions, wards or other divisions thereof, or of  
829 their boundary lines, then the Secretary of State, at the request  
830 of the Chairmen of the Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and  
831 the House Judiciary B Committee shall, by order, correct such  
832 omissions, overlaps, erroneous nomenclature or other defects in  
833 the description of districts so as to accomplish the purposes and  
834 objectives of House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this  
835 act.

836       (3) In promulgating such orders, the Secretary of State  
837 shall be guided by the following standard: in any instance in  
838 which there is a conflict between the description of a district as  
839 provided in House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this  
840 act and either the official map of the judicial districts  
841 developed by the Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and the  
842 House Judiciary B Committee or, where applicable, the official map



of the boundaries of the Capitol Complex Improvement District as described by Section 29-5-203, the applicable map shall control.

(4) Copies of such orders shall be filed by the Secretary of State in his office and in the offices of the affected commissioners of election and registrars. The Secretary of State may adopt reasonable rules regulating the procedure for applications for orders under House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this act in the manner of serving and filing a notice or copy of orders relating thereto. Upon the filing of an order, the description of any affected district shall be deemed to have been corrected in the manner provided in such order to the full extent as if the correction had been contained in the original description provided in House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, or this act.

**SECTION 30.** The Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and House Judiciary B Committees are directed to provide all information necessary to assist the counties in identifying the boundaries of the districts described in House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this act.

**SECTION 31.** The Chairmen of the Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and the House Judiciary B Committees shall file copies of House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and this act with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Secretary of State, the Clerk of the Mississippi House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Mississippi State Senate.



868           **SECTION 32.** If any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or  
869 any part of House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, or this act  
870 is declared to be unconstitutional or void, or if for any reason  
871 is declared to be invalid or of no effect, the remaining  
872 paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases or parts thereof shall be  
873 in no manner affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and  
874 effect.

875           **SECTION 33.** The redistricting of the Circuit Court Districts  
876 by House Bill No. 1544, 2025 Regular Session, and the Chancery  
877 Court Districts by this act shall be deemed to be separate and  
878 distinct from one another. The invalidity of any individual  
879 district of either the chancery or circuit courts shall not affect  
880 or require the redistricting of any other district.

881           **SECTION 34.** The enactment into law of House Bill No. 1544,  
882 2025 Regular Session, and this act shall fulfill the Legislature's  
883 obligation to redistrict the circuit and chancery court districts  
884 by December 31 of the fifth year following any federal decennial  
885 census after the 1980 Federal Decennial Census as required by  
886 Section 152 of Article 6 of Mississippi Constitution of 1890.

887           **SECTION 35.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
888 and after July 1, 2025.

