

## SENATE BILL NO. 2783

1       AN ACT TO PROHIBIT CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES FROM PROVIDING ANY  
2 POLITICAL CANDIDATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC DURING  
3 COURT TERMS; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-973, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
4 TO PROHIBIT CIRCUIT JUDGES FROM ALLOWING ANY POLITICAL CANDIDATE  
5 TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC DURING COURT TERMS; AND FOR RELATED  
6 PURPOSES.

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

8       **SECTION 1.**   No judge of any circuit court shall provide an  
9 opportunity for any political candidate to address the public  
10 during court terms.

11       **SECTION 2.**   Section 23-15-973, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
12 amended as follows:

13       23-15-973.   \* \* \*   No judge of any circuit court may provide  
14       an opportunity for any candidate for justice of the Supreme Court,  
15       judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, chancellor or  
16       justice court judge to address the public during court terms.   It  
17       shall be unlawful for any candidate for any of the offices  
18       mentioned in this section to align himself or herself with any  
19       candidate or candidates for any other office or with any political  
20       faction or any political party at any time during any primary or



21 general election campaign. Likewise it shall be unlawful for any  
22 candidate for any other office nominated or to be nominated at any  
23 primary election, wherein any candidate for any of the judicial  
24 offices in this section mentioned, is or are to be nominated, to  
25 align himself or herself with any one or more of the candidates  
26 for the offices or to take any part whatever in any nomination for  
27 any one or more of the judicial offices, except to cast his or her  
28 individual vote. Any candidate for any office, whether nominated  
29 with or without opposition, at any primary wherein a candidate for  
30 any one (1) of the judicial offices herein mentioned is to be  
31 nominated who shall deliberately, knowingly and willfully violate  
32 the provisions of this section shall forfeit his or her  
33 nomination, or if elected at the following general election by  
34 virtue of the nomination, his or her election shall be void.

35           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
36 and after July 1, 2025.

