House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2768

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- 39 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 40 brought forward as follows:
- 41 9-7-1. A circuit judge shall be elected for and from each
- 42 circuit court district and the listing of individual precincts
- 43 shall be those precincts as they existed on October 1, 1990. He
- 44 may hold court in any other district with the consent of the judge
- 45 thereof, when in their opinion the public interest may require.
- 46 The terms of all circuit judges hereafter elected shall begin on
- 47 the first day of January 1931 and their terms of office shall
- 48 continue for four (4) years. A circuit judge shall be a resident
- 49 of the district in which he or she serves but shall not be
- 50 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is
- 51 divided into subdistricts.
- 52 **SECTION 2.** Section 9-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 53 brought forward as follows:
- 9-7-3. (1) The state is divided into an appropriate number
- 55 of circuit court districts severally numbered and composed of the

56 counties as set forth in the sections which follow. A court to be

57 styled "The Circuit Court of the County of " shall be held in

58 each county, and within each judicial district of a county having

59 two (2) judicial districts, at least twice a year. Court shall be

60 held in circuit court districts consisting of a single county on

61 the same dates state agencies and political subdivisions are open

62 for business excluding legal holidays. The dates upon which terms

63 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall

64 continue in circuit court districts consisting of more than one

65 (1) county shall be set by order of the circuit court judge in

66 accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section.

67 A matter in court may extend past a term if the interest of

68 justice so requires.

69 (2) An order establishing the commencement and continuation 70 of terms of court for each of the counties within a circuit court 71 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered 72 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately

preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to

become effective. Notice of the dates upon which the terms of

75 court shall commence and the number of days for which the terms

76 shall continue in each of the counties within a circuit court

77 district shall be posted in the office of the circuit clerk of

78 each county within the district and mailed to the office of the

79 Secretary of State for publication and distribution to all

80 Mississippi Bar members. If an order is not timely entered, the

81 terms of court for each of the counties within any circuit court

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- 82 district shall remain unchanged for the next calendar year. A
- 83 certified copy of any order entered under the provisions of this
- 84 subsection shall, immediately upon the entry thereof, be delivered
- 85 to the clerk of the board of supervisors in each of the counties
- 86 within the circuit court district.
- 87 (3) The number of judges in each circuit court district
- 88 shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the following
- 89 criteria:
- 90 (a) The population of the district;
- 91 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;
- 92 (c) The case load of each judge in the district;
- 93 (d) The geographic area of the district;
- 94 (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the
- 95 court personnel of the district; and
- 96 (f) Any other appropriate criteria.
- 97 (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi
- 98 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine
- 99 the appropriate:
- 100 (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for
- 101 applying the above criteria;
- 102 (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified
- 103 data; and
- 104 (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.
- 105 (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of circuit
- 106 judge, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the powers,
- 107 duties and emoluments of those offices except that the judge who

- 108 has been for the longest time continuously a judge of that court
- 109 or, should no judge have served longer in office than the others,
- 110 the judge who has been for the longest time a member of The
- 111 Mississippi Bar, shall be the senior judge. The senior judge
- 112 shall have the right to assign causes and dockets and to set terms
- 113 in districts consisting of more than one (1) county. A circuit
- 114 court judge shall have the right to assign criminal matters to
- 115 county court as provided in Section 9-9-21.
- SECTION 3. Section 9-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 117 brought forward as follows:
- 118 9-7-5. The First Circuit Court District is composed of the
- 119 following counties:
- 120 (a) Alcorn County;
- 121 (b) Itawamba County;
- 122 (c) Lee County;
- 123 (d) Monroe County;
- 124 (e) Pontotoc County;
- 125 (f) Prentiss County; and
- 126 (g) Tishomingo County.
- 127 **SECTION 4.** Section 9-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 128 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 130 9-7-7. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the First
- 131 Circuit Court District.
- 132 (2) The four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 133 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as

- "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The
- 135 judge to fill Place One must reside in Alcorn, Prentiss or
- 136 Tishomingo County. The judges to fill Place Two and Place Three
- 137 must reside in Itawamba, Lee, Monroe or Pontotoc County. The
- 138 judge to fill Place Four may be a resident of any county in the
- 139 district. Election of the four (4) offices of judge shall be by
- 140 election to be held in every county within the First Circuit Court
- 141 District.
- [From January 1, 2027, until January 1, 2031, this section
- shall read as follows:]
- 144 9-7-7. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the First
- 145 Circuit Court District.
- 146 (2) The four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 147 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 148 "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four." The
- 149 judge to fill Place One must reside in Alcorn, Prentiss or
- 150 Tishomingo County. The judges to fill Place Two and Place
- 151 Three * * * may be a resident of any county in this district. The
- 152 judge to fill Place Four * * * shall be a resident of Itawamba,
- 153 Monroe or Pontotoc County. Election of the four (4) offices of
- 154 judge shall be by election to be held in every county within the
- 155 First Circuit Court District.
- 156 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 157 **follows:**]
- 158 9-7-7. (1) There shall be \star \star five (5) judges for the
- 159 First Circuit Court District.

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160 (2) The * * * five (5) judgeships shall be separate and
161 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
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- only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three", * * *"Place
- 163 Four * * *" and "Place Five". The judge to fill Place One must
- 164 reside in Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The judges to
- 165 fill Place Two and Place Three * * * may be a resident of any
- 166 <u>county</u>. The judge to fill Place Four * * * shall be a resident of
- 167 Itawamba, Monroe or Pontotoc County. Election of the four (4)
- 168 offices of judge shall be by election to be held in every county
- 169 within the First Circuit Court District. The judge to fill Place
- 170 Five must reside and be elected from any of the following
- 171 precincts in Lee County: Auburn, Baldwin, Beech Springs, Belden,
- 172 Birmingham Ridge, Bissell, Cedar Hill, Eggville, Euclautubba,
- 173 Fellowship, Friendship, Gilvo, Guntown, Hebron, Kedron,
- 174 Mooreville, Nettleton, Petersburg, Plantersville, Pratts,
- 175 Richmond, Saltillo, Tupelo 1, Tupelo 2, Tupelo 3, Tupelo 4 North,
- 176 Tupelo 4 South, Tupelo 5, Unity and Veteran's Park and the
- 177 following precincts in Monroe County: Amory 1, Amory 2, Athens,
- 178 Bartahatchie, Becker, Greenwood Springs, Hamilton, Hatley, Lackey,
- 179 North Greenwood Springs, Parham, Smithville and Williams.
- 180 **SECTION 5.** Section 9-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 181 brought forward as follows:
- 182 9-7-9. The Second Circuit Court District is composed of the
- 183 following counties:
- 184 (a) Hancock County;
- 185 (b) Harrison County; and

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186 (c) Stone County.
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- 187 **SECTION 6.** Section 9-7-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 188 amended as follows:
- 189 9-7-11. (1) There shall be four (4) judges for the Second
- 190 Circuit Court District.
- 191 (2) The four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 192 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 193 "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and "Place
- 194 Four."
- 195 **SECTION 7.** Section 9-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 196 brought forward as follows:
- 197 9-7-13. The Third Circuit Court District is composed of the
- 198 following counties:
- 199 (a) Benton County;
- 200 (b) Calhoun County;
- 201 (c) Chickasaw County;
- 202 (d) Lafayette County;
- (e) Marshall County;
- 204 (f) Tippah County; and
- 205 (g) Union County.
- SECTION 8. Section 9-7-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 207 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
- 209 9-7-14. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the Third
- 210 Circuit Court District.

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211 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
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212 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as

- 213 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."
- 214 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 215 **follows:**]
- 216 9-7-14. (1) There shall be \star \star four (4) judges for the
- 217 Third Circuit Court District.
- 218 (2) The * * * four (4) judgeships shall be separate and
- 219 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 220 only as "Place One," "Place Two" * * *, "Place Three * * *" and
- 221 "Place Four". The judges to fill Place One and Place Two may be a
- 222 resident of any county in the district. The judge to fill Place
- 223 Three may be a resident of any county in the district, except for
- 224 Lafayette County. The judge to fill Place Four shall be a
- 225 resident of Lafayette County.
- SECTION 9. Section 9-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 227 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
- 229 9-7-15. (1) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be
- 230 composed of the following counties:
- 231 (a) Leflore County;
- 232 (b) Sunflower County; and
- 233 (c) Washington County.
- 234 (2) The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
- 235 four (4) subdistricts as follows:

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236 (a) Subdistrict 4-1 shall consist of the following
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- 237 precincts in the following counties:
- 238 (i) Leflore County: Minter City, Money, North
- 239 Greenwood, * * * Northeast Greenwood, Schlater, West Greenwood,
- 240 Mississippi Valley State University * * *, Southeast Greenwood and
- 241 West Greenwood Precincts; and
- 242 (ii) Sunflower County: Ruleville, Rome, Sunflower
- 243 Plantation, Drew, Doddsville, Boyer-Linn, Fairview-Hale and
- 244 Ruleville North Precincts.
- 245 (b) Subdistrict 4-2 shall consist of the following
- 246 precincts in the following counties:
- 247 (i) Leflore County: Central Greenwood, East
- 248 Greenwood, Morgan City/Swiftown, North Itta Bena, Rising Sun,
- 249 Sidon, South Greenwood, South Itta Bena, Southwest Greenwood;
- 250 (* * *ii) Sunflower County: Indianola 1,
- 251 Sunflower, Indianola 3 North, Indianola 3 South, Indianola
- 252 Southeast and Indianola 3 Northeast Precincts; and
- 253 (* * *iii) Washington County: Darlove Baptist
- 254 Church, Extension Building, * * * Jakes Chapel M.B. Church, Lake
- 255 Vista Masonic Lodge, American Legion, Metcalfe City Hall, Elks
- 256 Club, Leland Rotary Club, Leland Health Department Clinic, * * *
- 257 St. James Episcopal Church and Washington County Convention
- 258 Center*.
- 259 (c) Subdistrict 4-3 shall consist of the following
- 260 precincts in the following counties:
- 261 * * *

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262
                     ( \star \star \star \dot{1})
                                Sunflower County: Moorhead, Inverness,
263
     Indianola 2 West and Indianola 2 East Precincts; and
264
                     ( * * *ii) Washington County: Arcola * * *
265
     Technology Center*, Hollandale City Hall * * * and Darlove Baptist
266
     Church* * * *.
267
                (d)
                     Subdistrict 4-4 shall consist of the following
268
     precincts in Washington County: Arcola Technology Center*, St.
269
     James Episcopal Church*, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Glen Allan
270
     Health Clinic, * * * Elks Club*, Ward's Recreation Center, Buster
     Brown Community Center, * * * Extension Building, Covenant
271
272
     Presbyterian, Jakes Chapel M.B. Church* Brent Center, * * * Tampa
273
     Drive and * * * Washington County Convention Center Precincts.
274
           (3)
               The local contributions required for the maintenance of
275
     the Fourth Circuit Court District shall be paid on a pro rata
     basis each by Leflore, Sunflower and Washington Counties.
276
277
          [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
278
     follows:]
279
          9-7-15. * * * The Fourth Circuit Court District shall be
280
     composed of the following counties:
281
                     Holmes County;
                (a)
282
                     Humphreys County;
                (b)
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                ( * * *c) Leflore County;
284
                (***d)
                           Sunflower County; and
285
                          Washington County.
                 * * *e)
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          SECTION 10. Section 9-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
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     amended as follows:
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          [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
290
          9-7-17.
                   There shall be four (4) circuit judges for the
291
     Fourth Circuit Court District. One (1) circuit judge shall be
292
     elected from each subdistrict.
293
          [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
294
     follows:]
295
          9-7-17. (1) There shall be \star \star three (3) circuit judges
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     for the Fourth Circuit Court District. One (1) circuit judge
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     shall be elected from each subdistrict.
298
          (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
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     and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
300
     "Place One", "Place Two" and "Place Three". The judge to fill
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     Place One shall be a resident of Washington County. The judge to
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     fill Place Two shall be a resident of Leflore, Holmes or Humphreys
303
     County. The judge to fill Place Three may be a resident of any
304
     county in the district.
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          SECTION 11. Section 9-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
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     brought forward as follows:
307
          9-7-19. The Fifth Circuit Court District is composed of the
308
     following counties:
309
                (a)
                    Attala County;
310
                    Carroll County;
                (b)
311
                (C)
                    Choctaw County;
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(d)

Grenada County;

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313 (e) Montgomery County;
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- 314 (f) Webster County; and
- 315 (g) Winston County.
- 316 **SECTION 12.** Section 9-7-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 317 brought forward as follows:
- 318 9-7-20. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifth
- 319 Circuit Court District.
- 320 (2) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 321 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 322 "Place One" and "Place Two."
- 323 **SECTION 13.** Section 9-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 324 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
- 326 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of
- 327 the following counties:
- 328 (a) Adams County;
- 329 (b) Amite County;
- 330 (c) Franklin County; and
- 331 (d) Wilkinson County.
- 332 (2) The Sixth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
- 333 two (2) subdistricts as follows:
- 334 (a) Subdistrict 6-1 shall consist of Wilkinson County
- 335 and the following precincts in the following counties:
- 336 (i) Adams County: Airport, Bellemont*, By-Pass
- 337 Fire Station, Carpenter, Concord*, Courthouse*, Duncan Park*,

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338 Foster Mound, * * * Northside School, Pine Ridge * * * and
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- 339 Washington*; and
- 340 (ii) Amite County: Amite River*, Ariel, Berwick*,
- 341 Crosby, East Centreville, East Gloster*, Gloster*,
- 342 Homochitto * * * and Vance Park*.
- 343 (b) Subdistrict 6-2 shall consist of Franklin County
- 344 and the following precincts in the following counties:
- 345 (i) Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont, Concord*,
- 346 Convention Center, Courthouse*, Duncan Park*, Kingston, Liberty
- 347 Park, Maryland * * *, Morgantown, Oakland, Palestine and
- 348 Washington*; and
- 349 (ii) Amite County: Amite River*, Berwick*, East
- 350 Fork, East Gloster*, East Liberty, Gloster*, Liberty, New Zion,
- 351 Oneil, Riceville, Smithdale, South Liberty*, Tangipahoa, Tickfaw,
- 352 Vance Park*, Walls and Zion Hills.
- 353 (3) There shall be two (2) judges for the Sixth Circuit
- 354 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
- 355 distinct. One (1) judge shall be elected from each subdistrict.

356 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as

357 **follows:**]

- 358 9-7-21. (1) The Sixth Circuit Court District is composed of
- 359 the following counties:
- 360 (a) Adams County;
- 361 (b) Amite County;
- 362 (c) Franklin County; and
- 363 (d) Wilkinson County.

- 364 (2) * * * There shall be * * * three (3) judges for the
- 365 Sixth Circuit Court District. The * * * three (3) judgeships
- 366 shall be separate and distinct. One (1) judge shall be elected
- 367 from each subdistrict and denominated for purposes of appointment
- 368 and election only as "Place One", "Place Two" and "Place Three".
- 369 The judge to fill Place One shall be a resident of Adams County.
- 370 The judge to fill Place Two shall be a resident of any county,
- 371 except Adams County. The judge to fill Place Three may be a
- 372 resident of any county in the district.
- 373 **SECTION 14.** Section 9-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 374 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 376 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be
- 377 Hinds County.
- 378 (2) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be divided into
- 379 four (4) subdistricts in Hinds County as follows:
- 380 (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of the following
- 381 precincts in Hinds County: * * * 32*, * * * 44, 45, 46, 47*, 72,
- 382 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92, 93, 96 and 97.
- 383 (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of the following
- 384 precincts in Hinds County: 11*, 12*, 13*, * * * 16*, * * * 23,
- 385 27, 28, 29, 30, * * * 38, 39*, 40, 41, 42*, 43*, 80, 81, 82, 83,
- 386 84, 85, Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.
- 387 (c) Subdistrict 7-3 shall consist of the following
- 388 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,

- 389 49*, 50, 51*, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58*, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63*,
- 390 64^{+} , * * * 67, 68, 69, 70^{+} , 71, 86 * * * and 89 * * *.
- 391 (d) Subdistrict 7-4 shall consist of the following
- 392 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram
- 393 1, Byram 2, Byram 3, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2,
- 394 Clinton 3, Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Clinton 7, Dry Grove,
- 395 Edwards, Learned, Old Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2,
- 396 Spring Ridge, St. Thomas, Terry 1, Terry 2, Utica 1 and Utica 2.
- 397 (e) Subdistrict 7-5 shall consist of all precincts
- 398 located within the boundaries of the Capitol Complex Improvement
- 399 District as described by Section 29-5-203.
- 400 [From January 1, 2027, until January 1, 2031, this section
- 401 shall read as follows:]
- 402 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be
- 403 Claiborne County, Hinds County and Jefferson County.
- 404 (2) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be divided
- 405 into * * * six (6) subdistricts * * * as follows:
- 406 (a) Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of the following
- 407 precincts in Hinds County: * * * 32*, * * * 44, 45, 46, 47*, 72,
- 408 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92, 93, 96 and 97.
- 409 (b) Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of the following
- 410 precincts in Hinds County: 11*, 12*, 13*, * * * 16*, * * * 23,
- 411 27, 28, 29, 30, * * * 38, 39*, 40, 41, 42*, 43*, 80, 81, 82, 83,
- 412 84, 85, Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.
- 413 (c) Subdistrict 7-3 shall consist of the following
- 414 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,

- 415 49*, 50, 51*, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58*, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63*,
- 416 64*, * * * 67, 68, 69, 70*, 71, 86 * * * and 89 * * *.
- 417 (d) Subdistrict 7-4 shall consist of the following
- 418 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram
- 419 1, Byram 2, Byram 3, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2,
- 420 Clinton 3, Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Clinton 7, Dry Grove,
- 421 Edwards, Learned, Old Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2,
- 422 Spring Ridge, St. Thomas, Terry 1, Terry 2, Utica 1 and Utica 2.
- 423 (e) Subdistrict 7-5 shall consist of Claiborne County
- 424 and Jefferson County.
- 425 (f) Subdistrict 7-6 shall consist of all precincts
- 426 located within the boundaries of the Capitol Complex Improvement
- 427 District as described in Section 29-5-203.
- 428 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 429 **follows:**]
- 430 9-7-23. (1) The Seventh Circuit Court District shall be
- 431 Claiborne County, Hinds County and Jefferson County.
- 432 * * *
- 433 **SECTION 15.** Section 9-7-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 434 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 436 9-7-25. (1) There shall be * * * five (5) circuit judges
- 437 for the Seventh Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be
- 438 elected from each subdistrict.
- 439 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
- 440 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them

- 441 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First
- 442 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior
- 443 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as
- 444 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes
- 445 of the court.
- [From January 1, 2027, until January 1, 2031, this section
- 447 shall read as follows:]
- 448 9-7-25. (1) There shall be \star \star six (6) circuit judges for
- 449 the Seventh Circuit Court District. The judgeships shall be
- 450 <u>separate and distinct</u>. For subdistricts 7-1 to 7-4, one (1) judge
- 451 shall be elected from each subdistrict. The judge to fill
- 452 subdistrict 7-5 shall be a resident of Claiborne County or
- 453 Jefferson County. The judge to fill subdistrict 7-6 shall be a
- 454 resident within the boundaries of the Capitol Complex Improvement
- 455 District as described by Section 29-5-203.
- 456 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
- 457 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them
- 458 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First
- 459 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior
- 460 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as
- 461 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes
- 462 of the court.
- [From January 1, 2031, until January 1, 2035, this section
- 464 shall read as follows:]
- 465 9-7-25. (1) There shall be \star \star six (6) circuit judges for
- 466 the Seventh Circuit Court District. * * * The judgeships shall

- 467 be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of
- 468 appointment and elections only as "Place One", "Place Two", "Place
- 469 Three", "Place Four", "Place Five" and "Place Six". The judges to
- 470 fill Place One, Place Two, Place Three and Place Four may reside
- 471 in any precinct within the district. The judge to fill Place Five
- 472 must reside in Claiborne County or Jefferson County. The judge to
- 473 fill Place Six must reside within the boundaries of the Capitol
- 474 Complex Improvement District.
- 475 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
- 476 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them
- 477 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First
- 478 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior
- 479 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as
- 480 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes
- 481 of the court.
- [From and after January 1, 2035, this section shall read as
- 483 **follows:**]
- 484 9-7-25. (1) There shall be \star \star \star five (5) circuit judges
- 485 for the Seventh Circuit Court District. * * * The judgeships
- 486 shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of
- 487 appointment and elections only as "Place One", "Place Two", "Place
- 488 Three", "Place Four" and "Place Five". The judges to fill Place
- 489 One, Place Two, Place Three and Place Four may reside in any
- 490 precinct within the district. The judge to fill Place Five must
- 491 reside in Claiborne County or Jefferson County.

- 492 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the 493 powers and duties of the said judges other than as cast upon them 494 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the First 495 Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the senior 496 circuit judge, may be divided into civil and criminal divisions as 497 a matter of convenience, by the entry of an order upon the minutes
- 499 **SECTION 16.** A special election shall be held to fill the 500 office of circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit Court District.
- 501 The special election shall be held on the first Tuesday in
- 502 November, 2025. Candidates shall file as provided in Section
- 503 23-15-977, and shall run for office and be elected as provided in
- 504 Sections 23-15-974 through 23-15-985, which constitute the
- 505 Nonpartisan Judicial Election Act. The judge elected shall serve
- 506 until January 1, 2027, unless the person is re elected to fill
- 507 such office in the November, 2026, election for judicial offices.
- 508 The terms of those offices shall thereafter be as provided by law
- 509 for circuit judges generally.
- 510 **SECTION 17.** Section 9-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 511 brought forward as follows:
- 512 9-7-27. (1) The Eighth Circuit Court District is composed
- 513 of the following counties:
- 514 (a) Leake County;
- 515 (b) Neshoba County;
- 516 (c) Newton County; and
- 517 (d) Scott County.

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of the court.

- 518 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Eighth Circuit
- 519 Court District.
- 520 (3) The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 521 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 522 "Place One" and "Place Two."
- 523 **SECTION 18.** Section 9-7-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 524 amended as follows:
- 525 [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
- 526 9-7-29. (1) The Ninth Circuit Court District is composed of
- 527 the following counties:
- 528 (a) Issaguena County;
- 529 (b) Sharkey County; and
- 530 (c) Warren County.
- 531 (2) The Ninth Circuit Court District shall be divided into
- 532 two (2) subdistricts as follows:
- 533 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of Issaquena County,
- 534 Sharkey County and the following precincts in Warren County: 3-61
- 535 Store*, American Legion Hall, Auditorium, Brunswick, Cedar Grove*,
- 536 Cherry Street*, Kings*, * * * and St. Aloysius * * *.
- 537 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of the following
- 538 precincts in Warren County: 3-61 Store*, Beechwood, Bovina, Cedar
- 539 Grove*, Cherry Street*, Culkin, Elks Lodge, Goodrum, Jett, Kings*,
- 540 Lee Road, Moose Lodge, Number 7 Fire Station*, * * * Oakland,
- 541 Plumbers Hall, Redwood, Tingleville, * * * YMCA and Yokena.
- [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 543 **follows:**]

```
9-7-29. * * * The Ninth Circuit Court District is composed
544
545
     of the following counties:
546
               (a)
                    Issaquena County;
547
                    Sharkey County; * * *
               (b)
                    Warren County * * *; and
548
               (C)
549
               (d) Yazoo County.
550
          SECTION 19. Section 9-7-30, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
551
552
     amended as follows:
553
          [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
554
          9-7-30. There shall be two (2) judges for the Ninth Circuit
555
     Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
556
     subdistrict.
557
          [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
558
     follows:]
559
          9-7-30. There shall be two (2) judges for the Ninth Circuit
560
     Court District. * * * The two (2) judgeships shall be separate
     and distinct. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
561
562
     subdistrict and denominated for purposes of appointment and
563
     election only as "Place One" and "Place Two". The judge to fill
564
     Place One shall be a resident of Warren County. The judge to fill
565
     Place Two may be a resident of any county in the district.
566
          SECTION 20. Section 9-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
```

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

amended as follows:

567

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569
          9-7-31.
                   The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the
570
     following counties:
571
                (a)
                    Clarke County;
572
                (b)
                    Kemper County;
573
                    Lauderdale County; and
                (C)
574
                (d)
                    Wayne County.
575
          [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
576
     follows:]
577
          9-7-31.
                   The Tenth Circuit Court District is composed of the
578
     following counties:
579
                (a)
                    Clarke County;
580
                    Kemper County; and
                (b)
                    Lauderdale County * * *.
581
                (C)
582
583
          SECTION 21. Section 9-7-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
584
     brought forward as follows:
585
          9-7-32. (1)
                        There shall be two (2) judges for the Tenth
586
     Circuit Court District.
587
               The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
     and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
588
589
     "Place One" and "Place Two."
590
          SECTION 22. Section 9-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
591
     amended as follows:
592
          [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
          9-7-33. (1) The Eleventh Circuit Court District is composed
593
```

of the following counties:

```
596
                    Coahoma County;
                (b)
                    Quitman County; and
597
                (C)
598
                (d)
                    Tunica County.
599
           (2)
               The Eleventh Circuit Court District shall be divided
600
     into three (3) subdistricts as follows:
601
                    Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of the following
                (a)
602
     precincts from the following counties:
603
                        Bolivar County: Benoit, Beulah, Boyle*,
                     (i)
604
     Choctaw, Cleveland Courthouse, East Central Cleveland*, East
605
     Cleveland*, East Rosedale, * * * Longshot, North Cleveland,
606
     Northwest Cleveland*, Pace*, Round Lake Gunnison Deeson, Scott,
     Shaw, Skene, South Cleveland*, Stringtown, West Central Cleveland,
607
608
     West Cleveland and West Rosedale; and
609
                     (ii) Coahoma County: Bobo*, Clarksdale 2 * * **,
610
     Clarksdale 5 * * **, Farrell* * * * and Rena Lara * * *.
611
                    Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of the following
                (b)
     precincts from the following counties:
612
613
                         Bolivar County: Boyle*, Cleveland Eastgate,
                     (i)
614
     Duncan/Alligator, East Central Cleveland*, East Cleveland*,
615
     Merigold, Mound Bayou, Northwest Cleveland*, Pace*, Renova, Round
     Lake Gunnison Deeson_{,} Shelby, * * * and Winstonville;
616
617
                     (ii) Coahoma County: Bobo*, Cagle Crossing,
618
     Clarksdale * * * 3, Clarksdale * * * 4, Clarksdale * * * 4 North,
     Clarksdale * * * 5*, Clarksdale * * * Courthouse*, Dublin * * *
619
620
     Roundaway and Sasse St. Fire Station; and
```

Bolivar County;

(a)

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621
                     (iii) Quitman County: * * * Crowder*, District 3
622
     South*, Lambert, Northwest Marks*, Southwest Marks* and West
623
     Lambert.
624
                    Subdistricts 11-3 shall consist of Tunica County
                (c)
625
     and the following precincts in the following counties:
626
                     (i) Coahoma County: Clarksdale * * * 2*,
627
     Clarksdale * * * 5*, * * * Clarksdale Courthouse*, Coahoma,
     Farrell*, Friar's Point, Jonestown, Lula * * * and Lyons * * *;
628
629
     and
630
                     (ii) Quitman County: * * * Crenshaw, Crowder*,
631
     Darling, District 3 North, District 3 South*, Northwest
632
     Marks*, * * * Sledge and Southwest Marks*.
633
          [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
634
     follows:]
          9-7-33. * * * The Eleventh Circuit Court District is
635
636
     composed of the following counties:
637
                (a) Bolivar County;
                (b) Coahoma County;
638
639
                (c) Quitman County; and
640
               (d) Tunica County.
641
          SECTION 23. Section 9-7-34, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
642
     amended as follows:
643
644
          [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
```

- 645 9-7-34. There shall be three (3) judges for the Eleventh
- 646 Circuit Court District. One (1) judge shall be elected from each
- 647 subdistrict.
- [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 649 **follows:**]
- 650 9-7-34. There shall be \star \star two (2) judges for the Eleventh
- 651 Circuit Court District. * * * The two (2) judgeships shall be
- 652 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
- and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two". The judge to
- 654 fill Place One shall be a resident of Bolivar County. The judge
- 655 to fill Place Two may be a resident of any county in the district,
- 656 except Bolivar County.
- 657 **SECTION 24.** Section 9-7-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 658 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 660 9-7-35. (1) The Twelfth Circuit Court District is composed
- 661 of the following counties:
- 662 (a) Forrest County; and
- (b) Perry County.
- 664 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth Circuit
- 665 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
- 666 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
- 669 **follows:**]

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9-7-35. (1) The Twelfth Circuit Court District is composed of the following counties:
```

- 672 (a) Forrest County; * * *
- 673 (b) Greene County; and
- 674 $(\star\star\underline{c})$ Perry County.
- (2) There shall be * * * three (3) judges for the Twelfth

 Circuit Court District. The * * * three (3) judgeships shall be

 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment

 and election only as "Place One" * * *, "Place Two * * *" and

 "Place Three". The judges to fill Place One and Place Two may

 reside in any county in the district. The judge to fill Place
- Three must reside and be elected from the following precincts in
- 682 Forrest County: Camp School, Court Street, Dixie Pine-Central,
- 683 <u>Eatonville</u>, Eureka School, Glendale, Hardy Street, Hattiesburg
- 684 Cultural Center, Highland Park, Lillie Burney School, North
- 685 Heights, Pinecrest, Rawls Springs, Rowan School, Sigler Center,
- Thames School, Train Depot, West Hills and Westside.
- SECTION 25. Section 9-7-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
- 689 9-7-37. (1) The Thirteenth Circuit Court District is 690 composed of the following counties:
- 691 (a) Covington County;
- 692 (b) Jasper County;
- 693 (c) Simpson County; and
- 694 (d) Smith County.

```
695
               There shall be two (2) judges for the Thirteenth Circuit
696
     Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
697
     distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
698
     only as "Place One" and "Place Two * * *".
699
          SECTION 26. Section 9-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
700
     amended as follows:
701
          [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
702
          9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is
703
     composed of the following counties:
704
                (a)
                    Lincoln County;
705
                (b)
                    Pike County; and
706
                    Walthall County.
                (C)
707
          (2)
                    There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth
               (a)
708
     Circuit Court District.
709
                    The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
710
     distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
711
     only as "Place One" and "Place Two."
712
          [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
713
     follows:]
          9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District is
714
715
     composed of the following counties:
716
                    * * * Copiah County;
                (a)
                    * * * Jefferson Davis County; * * *
717
                (b)
```

* * * Lawrence County * * *; and

Lincoln County.

(C)

(d)

718

```
720
           (2)
                    There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth
721
     Circuit Court District.
722
                     The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and
723
     distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
724
     only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The judge to fill Place One
725
     must be a resident of Lincoln County. The judge to fill Place Two
726
     must be a resident of either Lawerence, Copiah or Jefferson
727
     County.
728
          SECTION 27. Section 9-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
729
     amended as follows:
730
          [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
                9-7-41. The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is
731
732
     composed of the following counties:
733
                     Jefferson Davis County;
                (a)
734
                (b)
                    Lamar County;
735
                (C)
                    Lawrence County;
736
                    Marion County; and
                (d)
737
                (e) Pearl River County.
738
          [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
739
     follows:]
          9-7-41.
740
                   The Fifteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
741
     the following counties:
742
                (a)
                     * * * Pike County;
743
                (b)
                    Lamar County;
                     * * * Walthall County;
744
                (C)
745
                (d)
                    Marion County; and
```

- 746 (e) Pearl River County.
- 747 **SECTION 28.** Section 9-7-42, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 748 amended as follows:
- 749 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 750 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
- 751 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.
- 752 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 753 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 754 "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", and "Place Three * * *".
- 755 The judge to fill Place One must be a resident of Jefferson Davis,
- 756 Lamar, Lawrence or Marion County. The judge to fill Place Two may
- 757 be a resident of any county in the district. The judge to fill
- 758 Place Three must be a resident of Pearl River County.
- 759 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 760 follows:]
- 761 9-7-42. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
- 762 Fifteenth Circuit Court District.
- 763 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 764 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 765 "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", and "Place Three." The
- 766 judge to fill Place One must be a resident of * * * Lamar * * *
- 767 County. The judge to fill Place Two may be a resident of any
- 768 county in the district. The judge to fill Place Three must be a
- 769 resident of Pearl River County.
- 770 **SECTION 29.** Section 9-7-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 771 brought forward as follows:

- 772 9-7-43. The Sixteenth Circuit Court District is composed of
- 773 the following counties:
- 774 (a) Clay County;
- 775 (b) Lowndes County;
- 776 (c) Noxubee County; and
- 777 (d) Oktibbeha County.
- 778 **SECTION 30.** Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 779 amended as follows:
- 780 9-7-44. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
- 781 Sixteenth Circuit Court District.
- 782 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 783 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 784 "Place One * * *", "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *". The judge
- 785 to fill Place One must be a resident of Lowndes County. The judge
- 786 to fill Place Two must be a resident of Oktibbeha County. The
- 787 judge to fill Place Three must be a resident of either Clay or
- 788 Noxubee County. Election of the three (3) offices of judge shall
- 789 be by election to be held in every county within the Sixteenth
- 790 Circuit Court District.
- 791 **SECTION 31.** Section 9-7-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 792 brought forward as follows:
- 793 9-7-45. The Seventeenth Circuit Court District shall be
- 794 composed of the following counties:
- 795 (a) Panola County;
- 796 (b) Tallahatchie County;
- 797 (c) Tate County; and

798 (d) Yalobusha County. 799 SECTION 32. Section 9-7-46, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows: 800 801 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:] 802 9-7-46. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the 803 Seventeenth Circuit Court District. 804 (2) For the purpose of appointment and election, the two (2) 805 judgeships shall be separate and distinct, and be denominated as 806 "Place One" and "Place Two * * *". 807 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as 808 follows:] There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the 809 9 - 7 - 46. (1) Seventeenth Circuit Court District. 810 (2) For the purpose of appointment and election, the two (2) 811 812 judgeships shall be separate and distinct, and be denominated as "Place One" and "Place Two * * *". 813 814 SECTION 33. Section 9-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows: 815 816 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:] 817 9-7-47. The Eighteenth Circuit Court District shall be Jones 818 County. 819 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as 820 follows:] 821 (1) The Eighteenth Circuit Court District * * * is 822 composed of the following counties: 823 (a) Jones County; and

824 (b) Wayne County. 825 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Eighteenth Circuit 826 Court District. The two (2) judgeships shall be separate and 827 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two". The judge to fill Place One 828 829 must reside in Jones County. The judge to fill Place Two must 830 reside in Wayne County. 831 SECTION 34. Section 9-7-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 832 amended as follows: 833 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:] 834 9-7-49. (1) The Nineteenth Circuit Court District is 835 composed of the following counties: 836 George County; (a) 837 Greene County; and (b) 838 (C) Jackson County. 839 The local contribution required for the maintenance of 840 the Nineteenth Circuit Court District shall not exceed, as to 841 George and Greene Counties, the amount of their present local 842 contribution in their present respective circuit court districts, 843 and any excess shall be paid by Jackson County. 844 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as 845 follows:] The Nineteenth Circuit Court District is 846 9 - 7 - 49. (1)847 composed of the following counties: 848 (a) George County; and 849

850 (* * *b) Jackson County. 851 The local contribution required for the maintenance of 852 the Nineteenth Circuit Court District shall not exceed, as to 853 George * * * County, the amount of * * its present local 854 contribution in their present respective circuit court districts, 855 and any excess shall be paid by Jackson County. 856 SECTION 35. Section 9-7-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 857 amended as follows: 858 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:] 859 9-7-51. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the 860 Nineteenth Circuit Court District. The three (3) judgeships shall 861 be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two" and 862 863 "Place Three." The senior judge of the Nineteenth Circuit Court 864 865 District may divide the court of any county within the district 866 into civil, criminal and appellate court divisions as a matter of 867 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the 868 court. 869 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as 870 follows:] 871 9-7-51. * * * There shall be three (3) judges for the 872 Nineteenth Circuit Court District. The three (3) judgeships shall 873 be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of 874 appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place Two" and

"Place Three * * *".

876 * * *

SECTION 36. Section 9-7-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

- 878 brought forward as follows:
- 9-7-53. The Twentieth Circuit Court District is composed of
- 880 the following counties:
- 881 (a) Madison County; and
- 882 (b) Rankin County.
- 883 **SECTION 37.** Section 9-7-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 884 amended as follows:
- 9-7-54. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the
- 886 Twentieth Circuit Court District.
- 887 (2) The three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct
- 888 and denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
- 889 "Place One * * *", "Place Two", and "Place Three * * *". The
- 890 judge to fill Place One must reside in Rankin County, the judge to
- 891 fill Place Two must reside in Madison County, and the judge to
- 892 fill Place Three may reside in either Madison or Rankin County.
- 893 **SECTION 38.** Section 9-7-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 894 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 896 9-7-55. The * * * Twenty-second Circuit Court District is
- 897 composed of the following counties:
- 898 (a) Holmes County;
- 899 (b) Humphreys County; and
- 900 (c) Yazoo County.

901	[From January 1, 2027, until January 1, 2031, this section
902	shall read as follows:]
903	9-7-55. The * * * Twenty-second Circuit Court District is
904	composed of the following counties:
905	(a) Holmes County;
906	(b) Humphreys County; and
907	(c) Yazoo County.
908	[From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
909	follows:]
910	Section 9-7-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provides for
911	the Twenty-second Circuit Court District shall stand repealed on
912	and after January 1, 2031.
913	SECTION 39. Section 9-7-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
914	amended as follows:
915	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
916	9-7-57. The * * * $\frac{1}{2}$ Twenty-third Court District is composed of
917	the following counties:
918	(a) Claiborne County;
919	(b) Copiah County; and
920	(c) Jefferson County.
921	[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
922	<pre>follows:]</pre>
923	* * *
924	Section 9-7-57, which creates the Twenty-second Circuit Court
925	District shall stand repealed on and after January 1, 2027.

926	SECTION 40. Section 9-7-63, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
927	amended as follows:
928	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
929	9-7-63. The * * * $\underline{\text{Twenty-first}}$ Circuit Court District shall
930	be DeSoto County.
931	[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
932	<pre>follows:]</pre>
933	9-7-63. The * * * $\underline{\text{Twenty-first}}$ Circuit Court District shall
934	be DeSoto County.
935	SECTION 41. Section 9-7-64, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
936	amended as follows:
937	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
938	9-7-64. (1) There shall be * * * $\frac{1}{2}$ three (3) circuit judges
939	for the * * * Twenty-first Circuit Court District.
940	(2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the * * \star
941	three (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and
942	denominated as "Place One" * * * * Place Two * * *" and "Place
943	Three". The judges to fill Place One and Place Two may reside in
944	any precinct in the county. The judge to fill Place Three must
945	reside and be elected from the following precincts in DeSoto
946	County: Horn Lake Central, Horn Lake East, Horn Lake High
947	School*, Horn Lake Intermediate School, Horn Lake North, Horn Lake
948	West, Northwest Community College*, Southhaven South and
949	Southhaven West*.
950	[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
951	follows:]

- 952 9-7-64. (1) There shall be \star \star \star four (4) circuit judges
- 953 for the * * * Twenty-first Circuit Court District.
- 954 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election, the * * \star
- 955 four (4) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated
- 956 as "Place One" * * *, "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and "Place
- 957 Four". The judges to fill Place One, Place Two and Place Four may
- 958 reside in any precinct in the county. The judge to fill Place
- 959 Three must reside in and be elected from the following precincts
- 960 in DeSoto County: Horn Lake Central, Horn Lake East, Horn Lake
- 961 High School*, Horn Lake Intermediate School, Horn Lake North, Horn
- 962 Lake West, Northwest Community College*, Southhaven South and
- 963 Southhaven West*.
- 964 **SECTION 42.** Section 9-5-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 965 brought forward as follows:
- 966 9-5-1. A chancellor shall be elected for and from each of
- 967 the chancery court districts as provided in this chapter and the
- 968 listing of individual precincts shall be those precincts as they
- 969 existed on October 1, 1990. He shall hold court in any other
- 970 district with the consent of the chancellor thereof when in their
- 971 opinion the public interest may be thereby promoted. The terms of
- 972 all chancellors elected at the regular election for the year 1930
- 973 shall begin on the first day of January, 1931, and their terms of
- 974 office shall continue for four (4) years. A chancellor shall be a
- 975 resident of the district in which he serves but shall not be
- 976 required to be a resident of a subdistrict if the district is
- 977 divided into subdistricts.

978 SECTION 43. Section 9-5-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 979 brought forward as follows:

- 980 9-5-3. (1) The state shall be divided into an appropriate 981 number of chancery court districts, severally numbered and 982 composed of the counties as set forth in the sections which 983 follow. A court to be styled "The Chancery Court of the County of 984 " shall be held in each county, and within each judicial 985 district of a county having two (2) judicial districts, at least 986 twice a year. Court shall be held in chancery court districts consisting of a single county on the same dates state agencies and 987 988 political subdivisions are open for business excluding legal 989 holidays. The dates upon which terms shall commence and the 990 number of days for which terms shall continue in chancery court 991 districts consisting of more than one (1) county shall be set by 992 order of the chancellor in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section. A matter in court may extend past 993 994 a term if the interest of justice so requires.
- 995 An order establishing the commencement and continuation (2) 996 of terms of court for each of the counties within a chancery court 997 district consisting of more than one (1) county shall be entered 998 annually and not later than October 1 of the year immediately 999 preceding the calendar year for which the terms of court are to 1000 become effective. Notice of the dates upon which terms of court 1001 shall commence and the number of days for which the terms shall 1002 continue in each of the counties within a chancery court district 1003 shall be posted in the office of the chancery clerk of each county

- 1004 within the district and mailed to the office of the Secretary of
- 1005 State for publication and distribution to all Mississippi Bar
- 1006 members. If an order is not timely entered, the terms of court
- 1007 for each of the counties within the chancery court district shall
- 1008 remain unchanged for the next calendar year.
- 1009 (3) The number of chancellorships for each chancery court
- 1010 district shall be determined by the Legislature based upon the
- 1011 following criteria:
- 1012 (a) The population of the district;
- 1013 (b) The number of cases filed in the district;
- 1014 (c) The caseload of each chancellor in the district;
- 1015 (d) The geographic area of the district;
- 1016 (e) An analysis of the needs of the district by the
- 1017 court personnel of the district; and
- 1018 (f) Any other appropriate criteria.
- 1019 (4) The Judicial College of the University of Mississippi
- 1020 Law Center and the Administrative Office of Courts shall determine
- 1021 the appropriate:
- 1022 (a) Specific data to be collected as a basis for
- 1023 applying the above criteria;
- 1024 (b) Method of collecting and maintaining the specified
- 1025 data; and
- 1026 (c) Method of assimilating the specified data.
- 1027 (5) In a district having more than one (1) office of
- 1028 chancellor, there shall be no distinction whatsoever in the
- 1029 powers, duties and emoluments of those offices except that the

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1030 chancellor who has been for the longest time continuously a
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1031 chancellor of that court or, should no chancellor have served

- 1032 longer in office than the others, the chancellor who has been for
- 1033 the longest time a member of The Mississippi Bar shall be the
- 1034 senior chancellor. The senior chancellor shall have the right to
- 1035 assign causes and dockets and to set terms in districts consisting
- 1036 of more than one (1) county.
- 1037 **SECTION 44.** Section 9-5-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1038 brought forward as follows:
- 1039 9-5-5. The First Chancery Court District is composed of the
- 1040 following counties:
- 1041 (a) Alcorn County;
- 1042 (b) Itawamba County;
- 1043 (c) Lee County;
- 1044 (d) Monroe County;
- 1045 (e) Pontotoc County;
- 1046 (f) Prentiss County;
- 1047 (g) Tishomingo County; and
- 1048 (h) Union County.
- 1049 **SECTION 45.** Section 9-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1050 amended as follows:
- 1051 9-5-7. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
- 1052 First Chancery Court District.
- 1053 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1054 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1055 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and

```
"Place Four." The chancellor to fill Place One must be a resident
1056
1057
      of Alcorn, Prentiss or Tishomingo County. The chancellors to fill
      Place Two and Place Three must reside in Itawamba, Lee, Monroe,
1058
1059
      Pontotoc or Union County. The chancellor to fill Place Four may
1060
      be a resident of any county in the district. Election of the four
1061
      (4) offices of chancellor shall be by election to be held in every
1062
      county within the First Chancery Court District.
           SECTION 46. Section 9-5-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1063
1064
      amended as follows:
1065
           [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1066
           9-5-9. The Second Chancery Court District is composed of the
      following counties:
1067
1068
                 (a)
                     Jasper County;
1069
                 (b)
                     Newton County; and
1070
                 (C)
                     Scott County.
1071
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1072
      follows:]
1073
                   (1) The Second Chancery Court District is composed
           9-5-9.
1074
      of the following counties:
1075
                     Covington County;
1076
                 ( * * *b) Jasper County;
1077
                (c) Jefferson Davis County;
                 ( * * *d) Newton County; * * *
1078
1079
                 (e) Simpson County;
                 ( * * *f) Scott County * * *; and
1080
```

(g) Smith County.

```
1082
                There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Second
1083
      Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be
1084
      separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
      and election only as "Place One", "Place Two" and "Place Three".
1085
1086
      Place One chancellor may reside in Scott County, Newton County or
1087
      Jasper County. Place Two chancellor may reside in Simpson, Smith,
1088
      Covington or Jefferson Davis County. Place Three chancellor may
1089
      reside in any county in the district.
1090
           SECTION 47. Section 9-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
      amended as follows:
1091
1092
           [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1093
           9-5-11.
                          The Third Chancery Court District is composed
                     (1)
1094
      of the following counties:
1095
                 (a)
                      DeSoto County;
1096
                 (b)
                      Grenada County;
1097
                 (C)
                     Montgomery County;
1098
                     Panola County;
                 (d)
1099
                 (e)
                      Tate County; and
1100
                      Yalobusha County.
                 (f)
1101
                The Third Chancery Court District shall be divided into
            (2)
1102
      two (2) subdistricts as follows:
1103
                      Subdistrict 3-1 shall consist of DeSoto County.
                 (a)
1104
                      Subdistrict 3-2 shall consist of Grenada County,
                 (b)
1105
      Montgomery County, Panola County, Tate County and Yalobusha
```

County.

```
1107
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1108
      follows:]
1109
           9-5-11. * * * The Third Chancery Court District is composed
1110
      of the following counties:
1111
                      * * * Carroll County;
                 (a)
1112
                 (b)
                      Grenada County;
1113
                      Montgomery County;
                 (C)
1114
                      Panola County;
                 (d)
1115
                      Tate County; and
                 (e)
1116
                 (f)
                      Yalobusha County.
1117
           SECTION 48. Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1118
1119
      amended as follows:
1120
            [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
                    (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1121
1122
      Third Chancery Court District.
1123
                      The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected
            (2)
                 (a)
      from DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2
1124
1125
      shall be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola
1126
      County, Tate County and Yalobusha County.
1127
                      For purposes of appointment and election, the three
1128
      (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct. The
      chancellorship in Subdistrict 3-1 shall be denominated only as
1129
```

"Place One," and the chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2 shall be

denominated only as "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *".

1130

- [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1133 follows:1
- 1134 9-5-13. (1) There shall be \star \star two (2) chancellors for
- 1135 the Third Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment
- 1136 and election, the two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1137 distinct and denominated as "Place One" and "Place Two".
- 1138 (2) * * * The * * * chancellor of * * * Place One
- 1139 shall * * * reside in Tate County, Panola County or Yalobusha
- 1140 County. The * * * chancellor of * * * Place Two shall * * *
- 1141 reside in Carroll County, Grenada County or Montgomery
- 1142 County * * *.
- 1143 * * *
- SECTION 49. Section 9-5-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1145 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 1147 9-5-15. (1) The Fourth Chancery Court District is composed
- 1148 of the following counties:
- 1149 (a) Amite County;
- 1150 (b) Franklin County;
- 1151 (c) Pike County; and
- 1152 (d) Walthall County.
- 1153 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fourth
- 1154 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
- 1155 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
- 1156 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two * * *".

```
[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1157
1158
      follows:]
           9-5-15.
                         The Fourth Chancery Court District is composed
1159
                    (1)
      of the following counties:
1160
1161
                     Adams County;
                 (a)
1162
                 ( * * *b) Amite County;
1163
                 ( * * *c) Franklin County;
1164
                (d) Jefferson County;
1165
                 ( * * *e) Pike County; and
1166
                 ( * * *f) * * * Wilkinson County.
1167
            (2)
                There shall be \star \star three (3) chancellors for the
      Fourth Chancery Court District. The * * * three (3)
1168
1169
      chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
      purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" * * *
1170
      "Place Two * * *" and "Place Three". The chancellor for Place One
1171
1172
      must reside in Adams County or Jefferson County. The chancellor
1173
      for Place Two must reside in Amite County or Wilkinson County.
      The chancellor for Place Three must reside in Franklin County or
1174
1175
      Pike County.
1176
           SECTION 50. Section 9-5-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1177
      amended as follows:
1178
           [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
1179
           9-5-17. (1) The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed
1180
      of Hinds County.
1181
                The Fifth Chancery Court District shall be divided into
```

the following four (4) subdistricts:

1182

- 1183 (a) Subdistrict 5-1 shall consist of the following
- 1184 precincts in Hinds County: 1, 2, 4, * * * 6, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33,
- 1185 34, 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 92,
- 1186 93, 96 and 97.
- 1187 (b) Subdistrict 5-2 shall consist of the following
- 1188 precincts in Hinds County: 11, 12, 13, 14, * * * 16, 17, 23, 27,
- 1189 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,
- 1190 Brownsville, Cynthia, Pocahontas and Tinnin.
- 1191 (c) Subdistrict 5-3 shall consist of the following
- 1192 precincts in Hinds County: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 31,
- 1193 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63,
- 1194 64, * * * 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 86 * * * and 89 * * *.
- 1195 (d) Subdistrict 5-4 shall consist of the following
- 1196 precincts in Hinds County: 87, 88, 90, 91, 94, 95, Bolton, Byram
- 1197 1, Byram 2, Byram 3, Cayuga, Chapel Hill, Clinton 1, Clinton 2,
- 1198 Clinton 3, Clinton 4, Clinton 5, Clinton 6, Clinton 7, Dry Grove,
- 1199 Edwards, Learned, Old Byram, Pinehaven, Raymond 1, Raymond 2,
- 1200 Spring Ridge, St. Thomas, Terry 1, Terry 2, Utica 1 and Utica 2.
- 1201 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 1202 **follows:**]
- 1203 9-5-17. * * * The Fifth Chancery Court District is composed
- 1204 of Hinds County.
- 1205 * * *
- 1206 **SECTION 51.** Section 9-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1207 amended as follows:
- 1208 [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]

- 9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the 1210 Fifth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be 1211 elected from each subdistrict.
- 1212 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
 1213 powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon
 1214 them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the
 1215 First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the
 1216 senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a
 1217 matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of
 1218 the court.
- 1219 [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
- 1220 **follows:**]
- 1221 9-5-19. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
- 1222 Fifth Chancery Court District. * * * $\frac{1}{2}$ The four (4) chancellorships
- 1223 shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of
- 1224 appointment and election only as "Place One", "Place Two", "Place
- 1225 Three" and "Place Four".
- 1226 (2) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
- 1227 powers and duties of the said chancellors other than as cast upon
- 1228 them by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the
- 1229 First Judicial District of Hinds County, in the discretion of the
- 1230 senior chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a
- 1231 matter of convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of
- 1232 the court.
- 1233 **SECTION 52.** Section 9-5-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1234 amended as follows:

```
[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1235
1236
                     The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the
1237
      following counties:
1238
                 (a)
                      Attala County;
1239
                 (b)
                      Carroll County;
1240
                 (C)
                      Choctaw County;
1241
                 (d)
                      Kemper County;
1242
                      Neshoba County; and
                 (e)
1243
                      Winston County.
                 (f)
1244
            [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1245
      follows:]
1246
                     The Sixth Chancery Court District is composed of the
            9-5-21.
1247
      following counties:
1248
                 (a) Attala County;
1249
1250
                 ( * * *b) Choctaw County;
1251
                           Kemper County;
                 ( * * *<sub>C</sub>)
1252
                 ( * * *d) Neshoba County; * * *
1253
                 (e) Webster County; and
1254
                      Winston County.
                 (f)
            SECTION 53. Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1255
1256
      amended as follows:
            [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1257
1258
            9-5-22. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
      Sixth Chancery Court District.
1259
```

```
1260
                The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
1261
      distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
      only as "Place One" and "Place Two."
1262
1263
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1264
      follows:]
1265
           9-5-22.
                     (1)
                          There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
1266
      Sixth Chancery Court District.
1267
                The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
1268
      distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
      only as "Place One" and "Place Two." The chancellor for "Place
1269
1270
      One" must reside in Attala County, Choctaw County or Webster
1271
      County. The chancellor for "Place Two" must reside in Winston
1272
      County, Neshoba County or Kemper County.
1273
           SECTION 54. Section 9-5-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1274
      amended as follows:
1275
           [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
1276
           9-5-23.
                     (1) The Seventh Chancery Court District is composed
1277
      of the following counties:
1278
                      Bolivar County;
                 (a)
1279
                 (b)
                      Coahoma County;
1280
                 (C)
                     Leflore County;
1281
                 (d)
                      Quitman County;
1282
                 (e)
                      Tallahatchie County; and
1283
                      Tunica County.
                 (f)
                The Seventh Chancery Court District shall be divided
1284
            (2)
```

into two (2) subdistricts as follows:

```
1286
                      Subdistrict 7-1 shall consist of Bolivar County and
1287
      Coahoma County;
1288
                     Subdistrict 7-2 shall consist of Leflore County,
1289
      Quitman County, Tallahatchie County and Tunica County.
1290
           [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
1291
      follows:]
1292
                    * * * The Seventh Chancery Court District is
           9-5-23.
1293
      composed of the following counties:
1294
                     Bolivar County;
                 (a)
1295
                 (b)
                     Coahoma County;
1296
                 (C)
                      Leflore County;
1297
                      Quitman County;
                 (d)
1298
                      Tallahatchie County; and
                 (e)
1299
                 (f)
                      Tunica County.
1300
1301
           SECTION 55. Section 9-5-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1302
      amended as follows:
1303
           [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
1304
           9-5-25. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Seventh
1305
      Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships shall be
1306
      separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
1307
      Subdistrict 7-1 and shall be denominated for purposes of
      appointment and election only as "Place One * * *", and two (2)
1308
1309
      chancellors shall be elected from Subdistrict 7-2 and shall be
      denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
1310
      "Place Two" and "Place Three * * *".
1311
```

1312	[From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
1313	follows:]
1314	9-5-25. There shall be * * * $\underline{\text{two }(2)}$ chancellors for the
1315	Seventh Chancery Court District. The * * * two (2)
1316	chancellorships shall be separate and distinct * * \star , and shall be
1317	denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as
1318	"Place One", and * * * "Place Two" * * *. The chancellor for
1319	Place One must reside in Bolivar County or Coahoma County. The
1320	chancellor for Place Two must reside in Leflore County, Quitman
1321	County, Tallahatchie County or Tunica County.
1322	SECTION 56. Section 9-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1323	amended as follows:
1324	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1325	9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of
1326	the following counties:
1327	(a) Hancock County;
1328	(b) Harrison County; and
1329	(c) Stone County.
1330	[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1331	follows:]
1332	9-5-27. The Eighth Chancery Court District is composed of
1333	the following counties:
1334	(a) Hancock County; and
1335	(b) Harrison County * * * <u>.</u>
1336	* * *

- 1337 **SECTION 57.** Section 9-5-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1338 amended as follows:
- 1339 9-5-29. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the
- 1340 Eighth Chancery Court District.
- 1341 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1342 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1343 only as "Place One * * *", "Place Two * * *", "Place Three" and
- 1344 "Place Four."
- 1345 (3) While there shall be no limitation whatsoever upon the
- 1346 powers and duties of the chancellors other than as cast upon them
- 1347 by the Constitution and laws of this state, the court in the
- 1348 Eighth Chancery Court District, in the discretion of the senior
- 1349 chancellor, may be divided into four (4) divisions as a matter of
- 1350 convenience by the entry of an order upon the minutes of the
- 1351 court.
- 1352 **SECTION 58.** Section 9-5-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1353 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
- 1355 9-5-31. (1) The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed
- 1356 of the following counties:
- 1357 (a) Humphreys County;
- 1358 (b) Issaquena County;
- 1359 (c) Sharkey County;
- 1360 (d) Sunflower County;
- 1361 (e) Warren County; and
- 1362 (f) Washington County.

```
1363 (2) The Ninth Chancery Court District shall be divided into
```

- 1364 three (3) subdistricts as follows:
- 1365 (a) Subdistrict 9-1 shall consist of the following
- 1366 precincts in the following counties:
- 1367 (i) Sunflower County: Boyer-Linn, Drew,
- 1368 Fairview-Hale, Indianola 2 East*, Indianola 3 North * * *,
- 1369 Indianola 3 Northeast*, Indianola 3 South*, Rome, Ruleville,
- 1370 Ruleville North and Sunflower Plantation; and
- 1371 (ii) Washington County: * * * Brent Center,
- 1372 Buster Brown Community Center*, Darlove Baptist Church*, Elks
- 1373 Club, Extension Building, * * * Jakes Chapel M.B. Church*, Lake
- 1374 Vista Masonic Lodge, Leland Health Department Clinic, Leland
- 1375 Rotary Club, Metcalf City Hall, * * * St. James Episcopal Church*
- 1376 and Washington County Convention Center*.
- 1377 (b) Subdistrict 9-2 shall consist of Humphreys County
- 1378 and the following precincts in the following counties:
- 1379 (i) Sunflower County: Doddsville, Indianola 2
- 1380 East*, Indianola 2 West, * * * Indianola 3 Northeast*, Indianola 3
- 1381 South*, Indianola Southeast, Inverness, Moorhead * * * and
- 1382 Sunflower * * *; and
- 1383 (ii) Washington County: * * * Arcola Technology
- 1384 Center, Buster Brown Community Center*, Covenant Presbyterian,
- 1385 Darlove Baptist Church*, Glen Allan Health Clinic, * * *
- 1386 Hollandale City Hall, Jakes Chapel M.B. Church, St. James
- 1387 Episcopal Church, Swiftwater Baptist Church, Tampa Drive * * *,
- 1388 Ward's Recreation Center and Washington County Convention Center.

```
1389
                      Subdistrict 9-3 shall consist of Issaquena County,
1390
      Sharkey County and Warren County.
           [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
1391
1392
      follows:]
1393
           9-5-31. * * * The Ninth Chancery Court District is composed
1394
      of the following counties:
1395
                 (a)
                      Humphreys County;
1396
                      Issaquena County;
                 (b)
1397
                      Sharkey County;
                 (C)
1398
                 (d)
                     Sunflower County;
1399
                 (e)
                      Warren County; and
1400
                 (f)
                     Washington County.
1401
1402
           SECTION 59.
                        Section 9-5-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
      amended as follows:
1403
1404
           [Until January 1, 2031, this section shall read as follows:]
1405
           9-5-33.
                    There shall be three (3) chancellors for the Ninth
1406
      Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
1407
      each subdistrict.
1408
           [From and after January 1, 2031, this section shall read as
1409
      follows:]
1410
           9-5-33.
                    There shall be * * two (2) chancellors for the
1411
      Ninth Chancery Court District. * * * The two (2) chancellorships
1412
      shall be separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of
      appointment and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two".
1413
```

chancellor for Place One must reside in Humphreys County,

```
1415
      Sunflower County or Washington County. The chancellor for Place
1416
      Two must reside in Issaquena County, Sharkey County or Warren
1417
      County.
           SECTION 60. Section 9-5-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1418
1419
      amended as follows:
1420
           [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1421
           9-5-35. The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the
1422
      following counties:
1423
                     Forrest County;
                 (a)
1424
                 (b)
                     Lamar County;
1425
                 (C)
                     Marion County;
1426
                     Pearl River County; and
                 (d)
1427
                     Perry County.
                 (e)
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1428
1429
      follows:]
1430
                    The Tenth Chancery Court District is composed of the
1431
      following counties:
1432
1433
                           Lamar County;
                 ( * * *a)
1434
                 ( * * *b) Marion County; and
1435
                 ( * * *c) Pearl River County * * *.
1436
1437
           SECTION 61. Section 9-5-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1438
      amended as follows:
```

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

- 1440 9-5-36. (1) There shall be four (4) chancellors for the 1441 Tenth Chancery Court District.
- 1442 (2) The four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1443 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1444 only as "Place One," "Place Two," "Place Three" and "Place Four."
- 1445 The chancellor to fill Place One and Place Four may be a resident
- 1446 of any county in the district. The chancellor to fill Place Two
- 1447 must be a resident of Lamar, Marion, Pearl River or Perry County.
- 1448 The chancellor to fill Place Three must be a resident of Forrest
- 1449 County. Election of the four (4) offices of chancellor shall be
- 1450 by election to be held in every county within the Tenth Chancery
- 1451 Court District.
- [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1453 **follows:**]
- 1454 9-5-36. (1) There shall be \star \star three (3) chancellors for
- 1455 the Tenth Chancery Court District.
- 1456 (2) The * * * three (3) chancellorships shall be separate
- 1457 and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and
- 1458 election only as "Place One," "Place Two * * *" and "Place
- 1459 Three" * * *. The chancellor to fill Place One * * * may be a
- 1460 resident of any county in the district. The chancellor to fill
- 1461 Place Two must be a resident of Lamar * * * County. The
- 1462 chancellor to fill Place Three * * * may be a resident of any
- 1463 county in the district. * * *
- 1464 **SECTION 62.** Section 9-5-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1465 amended as follows:

```
1466
           9-5-37. (1) The Eleventh Chancery Court District is
1467
      composed of the following counties:
1468
                 (a)
                     Holmes County;
1469
                 (b)
                     Leake County;
1470
                     Madison County; and
                 (C)
1471
                 (d)
                     Yazoo County.
                The Eleventh Chancery Court District shall be divided
1472
            (2)
1473
      into two (2) subdistricts as follows:
1474
                     Subdistrict 11-1 shall consist of Holmes County,
                 (a)
1475
      Yazoo County and the following precincts in Madison County: * * *
1476
      Canton Bible Church, Canton Community Center, Ferns Chapel
      Freewill, Frankin Baptist Church, Madison County Baptist Family
1477
1478
      Life Center * * * and Magnolia Heights * * *;
1479
                     Subdistrict 11-2 shall consist of Leake County and
      the following precincts in Madison County: * * * Camden,
1480
1481
      Cameron, * * * Canton Catholic Parish Center, Canton Fire Station
1482
      #4, Canton National Guard Amory, Canton South Liberty, Canton St.
      Paul Methodist, Cedar Grove, * * * China Grove, Colonial Heights,
1483
1484
      Couparle, Farmhaven Fire Station, Fellowship Bible Church, First
1485
      Baptist, Gluckstadt, Grace Crossing, Greater Mt. Levi Church,
      Highland Colony Baptist Church, * * * Lake Caroline Clubhouse,
1486
1487
      Mark Apartments, Mounty Hope, New Life, North Bay, * * * Parkway
1488
      Church, Pleasant Gift Church, Pleasant Green, Ridgeland First
1489
      Methodist Church, * * * Ridgeland Recreational Center, Sunnybrook,
      Tougaloo, * * * Trace Ridge, Twin Lakes Baptist, Vertical Church,
1490
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Victory Baptist Church * * * and Victory Christian.

- 1492 **SECTION 63.** Section 9-5-38, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1493 amended as follows:
- 1494 9-5-38. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
- 1495 Eleventh Chancery Court District. The three (3) chancellorships
- 1496 shall be separate and distinct. One (1) chancellor shall be
- 1497 elected from Subdistrict 11-1 and denominated for purposes of
- 1498 appointment and election only as "Place One * * *", one (1)
- 1499 chancellor shall be elected from Subdistrict 11-2 and denominated
- 1500 for purposes of appointment and election only as "Place
- 1501 Two \star \star \star ", and one (1) chancellor shall be elected at large from
- 1502 the entire Eleventh Chancery Court District and denominated for
- 1503 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place Three * * *".
- SECTION 64. Section 9-5-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1505 brought forward as follows:
- 1506 9-5-39. The Twelfth Chancery Court District is composed of
- 1507 the following counties:
- 1508 (a) Clarke County; and
- 1509 (b) Lauderdale County.
- 1510 **SECTION 65.** Section 9-5-40, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1511 brought forward as follows:
- 1512 9-5-40. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth
- 1513 Chancery Court District.
- 1514 (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1515 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1516 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

```
1517
            SECTION 66. Section 9-5-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1518
      amended as follows:
            [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1519
1520
            9-5-41.
                     (1)
                          The Thirteenth Chancery Court District is
1521
      composed of the following counties:
1522
                 (a)
                      Covington County;
1523
                      Jefferson Davis County;
                 (b)
1524
                      Lawrence County;
                 (C)
1525
                      Simpson County; and
                 (d)
1526
                 (e)
                      Smith County.
                 There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Thirteenth
1527
            (2)
1528
      Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
1529
      separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
      and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."
1530
1531
            [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1532
      follows:]
1533
                          The Thirteenth Chancery Court District is
                     (1)
1534
      composed of the following counties:
1535
                      * * * Forrest County;
                 (a)
                      * * * Greene County;
1536
                 (b)
1537
                      * * * Perry County; and
                 (C)
1538
                         * Stone County.
                 (d)
1539
1540
                 There shall be \star \star \star three (3) chancellors for the
      Thirteenth Chancery Court District. The * * * three (3)
1541
1542
      chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
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1543 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and
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- 1544 "Place Two \star \star " and "Place Three". The chancellor for Place One
- 1545 must reside in Forrest County. The chancellor for Place Two may
- 1546 reside in any county in the district, except Forrest County. The
- 1547 chancellor for Place Three shall reside and be elected from the
- 1548 following precincts in Forrest County: Camp School, Court Street,
- 1549 Dixie Pine-Central, Eatonville, Eureka School, Glendale, Hardy
- 1550 Street, Hattiesburg Cultural Center, Highland Park, Lillie Burney
- 1551 School, North Heights, Pinecrest, Rawls Springs, Rowan School,
- 1552 Sigler Center, Thames School, Train Depot, West Hills and
- 1553 Westside.
- 1554 **SECTION 67.** Section 9-5-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1555 amended as follows:

1556 [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]

- 1557 9-5-43. (1) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is
- 1558 composed of the following counties:
- 1559 (a) Chickasaw County;
- 1560 (b) Clay County;
- 1561 (c) Lowndes County;
- 1562 (d) Noxubee County;
- 1563 (e) Oktibbeha County; and
- 1564 (f) Webster County.
- 1565 (2) The Fourteenth Chancery Court District shall be divided
- 1566 into three (3) subdistricts as follows:
- 1567 (a) Subdistrict 14-1 shall consist of Chickasaw County,
- 1568 Webster County and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County:

- 1569 Bell Schoolhouse*, Bradley, Center Grove, Central Starkville*,
- 1570 Craig Springs, Double Springs, East Starkville*, Gillespie Street
- 1571 Center*, Maben, North Adaton, North Longview, North Starkville 2*,
- 1572 North Starkville 3, Northeast Starkville, Self Creek, South
- 1573 Adaton, South Longview, South Starkville*, Sturgis and West
- 1574 Starkville*.
- 1575 (b) Subdistrict 14-2 shall consist of the following
- 1576 precincts in the following counties:
- 1577 (i) Clay County: Cedar Bluff, Central West Point,
- 1578 East West Point, Siloam, South West Point and Vinton; and
- 1579 (ii) Lowndes County: Air Base A, Air Base B, Air
- 1580 Base C, Air Base D, Air Base E, Brandon A, Brandon B, Brandon C,
- 1581 Brandon D, Caledonia, Columbus High School A, Columbus High School
- 1582 B, Columbus High School C, Columbus High School D, Dowdle Gas
- 1583 Training Center B, Fairgrounds C, Fairgrounds E, Fairgrounds F,
- 1584 Hunt C, Lee Middle School, Mitchell A, New Hope A, New Hope B, New
- 1585 Hope C, New Hope D, New Hope E, Rural Hill A, Rural Hill B, Rural
- 1586 Hill C, Sale A, Sale B, Sale C, Steens A, Steens B, Steens C,
- 1587 Trinity B, Union Academy B, Union Academy C and University A.
- 1588 (c) Subdistrict 14-3 shall consist of Noxubee County
- 1589 and the following precincts in the following counties:
- 1590 (i) Clay County: Cairo, Caradine, North West
- 1591 Point, Pheba, Pine Bluff, Tibbee, Union Star and West West Point;
- 1592 (ii) Lowndes County: Artesia, Coleman A, Coleman
- 1593 B, Crawford A, Fairgrounds A, Fairgrounds B, Fairgrounds D,
- 1594 Fairgrounds G, Hunt A, Hunt B, Mitchell B, New Hope F, Plum Grove

- 1595 A, Plum Grove B, Plum Grove C, Propst Park Community Hut, Trinity
- 1596 A, Union Academy A, University B, West Lowndes A and West Lowndes
- 1597 B; and
- 1598 (iii) Oktibbeha County: Bell Schoolhouse*,
- 1599 Central Starkville*, East Starkville*, Gillespie Street Center*,
- 1600 Hickory Grove, North Starkville 2*, Oktoc, Osborn, Sessums, South
- 1601 Starkville*, Southeast Oktibbeha and West Starkville*.
- [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1603 **follows:**]
- 1604 9-5-43. * * * The Fourteenth Chancery Court District is
- 1605 composed of the following counties:
- 1606 (a) Chickasaw County;
- 1607 (b) Clay County;
- 1608 (c) Lowndes County;
- 1609 (d) Noxubee County; and
- 1610 (e) Oktibbeha County * * *.
- 1611 * * *
- SECTION 68. Section 9-5-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1613 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 1615 9-5-45. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
- 1616 Fourteenth Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be
- 1617 elected from each subdistrict.
- 1618 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1619 follows:]

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1620
           9-5-45. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1621
      Fourteenth Chancery Court District. * * * The three (3)
1622
      chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
1623
      purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One", "Place
1624
      Two" and "Place Three". The chancellor for Place One must reside
1625
      in Chickasaw County, Clay County or Oktibbeha County. The
1626
      chancellor for Place Two must reside in Lowndes County or Noxubee
1627
      County. The chancellor for Place Three must reside and be elected
1628
      from Noxubee County, and any of the following precincts in Lowndes
1629
      County: 15th Street Church, Artesia, Coleman, Crawford, Hunt*,
      Plum Grove, Southside Church, Townsend Park, Trinity, West
1630
      Lowndes; and the following precincts in Oktibbeha County: Hickory
1631
1632
      Grove/Southeast Oktibbeha*, Oktoc and Sessums.
1633
           SECTION 69. Section 9-5-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1634
      amended as follows:
           [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1635
1636
           9-5-47.
                    The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
1637
      the following counties:
1638
                     Copiah County; and
                 (a)
1639
                 (b)
                     Lincoln County.
1640
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1641
      follows:]
1642
                    (1) The Fifteenth Chancery Court District is
1643
      composed of the following counties:
1644
                 (a)
                     Claiborne County
1645
                 ( * * *b) Copiah County; * * *
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1646
                (c) Lawrence County;
                 ( * * *d) Lincoln County * * *; and
1647
1648
                (e) Walthall County.
           (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Fifteenth
1649
1650
      Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
1651
      separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
1652
      and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two". The chancellor
1653
      for Place One must reside in Copiah County, Claiborne County or
1654
      Lawrence County. The chancellor for Place Two must reside in
1655
      Lincoln County or Walthall County.
1656
           SECTION 70. Section 9-5-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1657
      amended as follows:
1658
           [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1659
           9-5-49.
                    The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
1660
      the following counties:
1661
                 (a)
                     George County;
1662
                     Greene County; and
                 (b)
1663
                     Jackson County.
                 (C)
1664
           [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1665
      follows:]
                    The Sixteenth Chancery Court District is composed of
1666
           9-5-49.
1667
      the following counties:
1668
                 (a)
                     George County; and
1669
1670
                    * *b) Jackson County.
```

1671	SECTION 71. Section 9-5-50, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1672	amended as follows:
1673	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1674	9-5-50. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
1675	Sixteenth Chancery Court District.
1676	(2) The three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and
1677	distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
1678	only as "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."
1679	[From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
1680	follows:]
1681	9-5-50. (1) There shall be * * * $four$ (4) chancellors for
1682	the Sixteenth Chancery Court District.
1683	(2) The * * * four (4) chancellorships shall be separate and
1684	distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
1685	only as "Place One," "Place Two" * * *, "Place Three * * *" and
1686	"Place Four". The chancellors for Place One, Place Two and Place
1687	Three may reside in any county in the district. The chancellor
1688	for Place Four must reside in George County.
1689	SECTION 72. Section 9-5-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1690	amended as follows:
1691	[Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
1692	9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is
1693	composed of the following counties:
1694	(a) Adams County;
1695	(b) Claiborne County;
1696	(c) Jefferson County; and

- 1697 (d) Wilkinson County.
- 1698 (2) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District shall be divided
- 1699 into two (2) subdistricts as follows:
- 1700 (a) Subdistrict 17-1 shall consist of Claiborne County,
- 1701 Jefferson County, and the following precincts in Adams County:
- 1702 Airport Carpenter*, Convention Center*, Foster Mound, Maryland*,
- 1703 Northside School, Palestine, Pine Ridge, Thompson and Washington*.
- 1704 (b) Subdistrict 17-2 shall consist of Wilkinson County
- 1705 and the following precincts in Adams County: Beau Pre, Bellemont,
- 1706 By-Pass Fire Station, Carpenter*, Concord, Convention Center*,
- 1707 Courthouse, Duncan Park, Kingston, Liberty Park, Maryland*,
- 1708 Morgantown, Oakland and Washington*.
- 1709 (3) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Seventeenth
- 1710 Chancery Court District. One (1) chancellor shall be elected from
- 1711 each subdistrict.
- 1712 [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1713 **follows:**]
- 1714 9-5-51. (1) The Seventeenth Chancery Court District is
- 1715 composed of * * * DeSoto County.
- 1716 * * *
- 1717 (\star \star \star 2) There shall be \star \star three (3) chancellors for the
- 1718 Seventeenth Chancery Court District. * * * The three (3)
- 1719 chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for
- 1720 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place
- 1721 Two" and "Place Three". The chancellors for Place One and Place
- 1722 Two may reside in any precinct in the district. The chancellor

- 1723 for Place Three must reside in and be elected from the following
- 1724 precincts in DeSoto County: Horn Lake Central, Horn Lake East,
- 1725 Horn Lake High School*, Horn Lake Intermediate School, Horn Lake
- 1726 North, Horn Lake West, Northwest Community College*, Southhaven
- 1727 South and Southhaven West*.
- 1728 **SECTION 73.** Section 9-5-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1729 brought forward as follows:
- 1730 9-5-53. The Eighteenth Chancery Court District is composed
- 1731 of the following counties:
- 1732 (a) Benton County;
- 1733 (b) Calhoun County;
- 1734 (c) Lafayette County;
- 1735 (d) Marshall County; and
- 1736 (e) Tippah County.
- 1737 **SECTION 74.** Section 9-5-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1738 brought forward as follows:
- 1739 9-5-54. (1) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the
- 1740 Eighteenth Chancery Court District.
- 1741 (2) The two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1742 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1743 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."
- 1744 **SECTION 75.** Section 9-5-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1745 amended as follows:
- [Until January 1, 2027, this section shall read as follows:]
- 1747 9-5-55. The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is composed
- 1748 of the following counties:

- 1749 (a) Jones County; and
 1750 (b) Wayne County.
- [From and after January 1, 2027, this section shall read as
- 1752 **follows:**]
- 1753 9-5-55. (1) The Nineteenth Chancery Court District is 1754 composed of the following counties:
- 1755 (a) Jones County; and
- 1756 (b) Wayne County.
- 1757 (2) There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Nineteenth
- 1758 Chancery Court District. The two (2) chancellorships shall be
- 1759 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment
- 1760 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two". The chancellor
- 1761 for Place One must reside in Jones County. The chancellor for
- 1762 Place Two must reside in Wayne County.
- 1763 **SECTION 76.** Section 9-5-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1764 brought forward as follows:
- 1765 9-5-57. The Twentieth Chancery Court District shall be
- 1766 Rankin County.
- 1767 **SECTION 77.** Section 9-5-58, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 1768 amended as follows:
- 1769 9-5-58. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the
- 1770 Twentieth Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment
- 1771 and election the three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and
- 1772 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election
- 1773 only as "Place One * * *". "Place Two", and "Place Three * * *".

1774	SECTION 78. Section 25-31-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is					
1775	brought forward as follows:					
1776	25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal					
1777	assistants are authorized in the following circuit court					
1778	districts:					
1779	(a) First Circuit Court District ten (10)					
1780	legal assistants.					
1781	(b) Second Circuit Court District eleven (11)					
1782	legal assistants.					
1783	(c) Third Circuit Court District six (6)					
1784	legal assistants.					
1785	(d) Fourth Circuit Court Districtsix (6)					
1786	legal assistants.					
1787	(e) Fifth Circuit Court Districtfive (5)					
1788	legal assistants.					
1789	(f) Sixth Circuit Court District three (3)					
1790	legal assistants.					
1791	(g) Seventh Circuit Court District twelve (12)					
1792	legal assistants. Effective July 1, 2023, through July 1, 2025,					
1793	the Seventh Circuit Court District shall have fourteen (14) legal					
1794	assistants.					
1795	(h) Eighth Circuit Court Districtthree (3)					
1796	legal assistants.					
1797	(i) Ninth Circuit Court Districtthree (3)					
1798	legal assistants.					

1799		(j)	Tenth Circuit Court District five	(5)				
1800	legal	assistan	assistants.					
1801		(k)	Eleventh Circuit Court Districtfive	(5)				
1802	legal	assistan	ts.					
1803		(1)	Twelfth Circuit Court Districtfive	(5)				
1804	legal	assistan	ts.					
1805		(m)	Thirteenth Circuit Court Districtfour	(4)				
1806	legal	assistan	ts.					
1807		(n)	Fourteenth Circuit Court District six	(6)				
1808	legal	assistan	ts.					
1809		(0)	Fifteenth Circuit Court District seven	(7)				
1810	legal	assistan	assistants.					
1811		(p)	Sixteenth Circuit Court District six	(6)				
1812	legal	assistants.						
1813		(d)	Seventeenth Circuit Court District four	(4)				
1814	legal	assistants.						
1815		(r)	Eighteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1816	legal	assistants.						
1817		(s)	Nineteenth Circuit Court District seven	(7)				
1818	legal	assistants.						
1819		(t)	Twentieth Circuit Court District seven	(7)				
1820	legal	assistan	ts.					
1821		(u)	Twenty-first Circuit Court District four	(4)				
1822	legal	assistan	ts.					
1823		(v)	Twenty-second Circuit Court District three	(3)				
1824	legal	assistan	ts.					
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1825	(w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District five (5)						
1826	legal assistants.						
1827	(2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant						
1828	to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of						
1829	full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following						
1830	circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the						
1831	Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe						
1832	benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following						
1833	circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one						
1834	or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a						
1835	resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses						
1836	and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such						
1837	district pursuant to this subsection:						
1838	(a) First Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1839	legal assistants.						
1840	(b) Second Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1841	legal assistants.						
1842	(c) Third Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1843	legal assistants.						
1844	(d) Fourth Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1845	legal assistants.						
1846	(e) Fifth Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1847	legal assistants.						
1848	(f) Sixth Circuit Court Districttwo (2)						
1849	legal assistants.						

1850		(g)	Seventh Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1851	legal	assistants.						
1852		(h)	Eighth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1853	legal	assistan	assistants.					
1854		(i)	Ninth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1855	legal	assistan	ts.					
1856		(j)	Tenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1857	legal	assistan	ts.					
1858		(k)	Eleventh Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1859	legal	assistan	ts.					
1860		(1)	Twelfth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1861	legal	assistan	ts.					
1862		(m)	Thirteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1863	legal	assistan	assistants.					
1864		(n)	Fourteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1865	legal	assistants.						
1866		(0)	Fifteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1867	legal	assistants.						
1868		(p)	Sixteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1869	legal	assistants.						
1870		(q)	Seventeenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1871	legal	assistan	ts.					
1872		(r)	Eighteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1873	legal	assistan	assistants.					
1874		(s)	Nineteenth Circuit Court Districttwo	(2)				
1875	legal	assistan	ts.					
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- 1877 legal assistants.
- 1878 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)
- 1879 legal assistants.
- 1880 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....two (2)
- 1881 legal assistants.
- 1882 (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District.....two (2)
- 1883 legal assistants.
- 1884 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a
- 1885 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits
- 1886 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the
- 1887 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to
- 1888 this section.
- 1889 (4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may
- 1890 employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or
- 1891 both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal
- 1892 assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators
- 1893 authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the
- 1894 district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any
- 1895 source shall include, but is not limited to, office generated
- 1896 funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a
- 1897 municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds,
- 1898 private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal
- 1899 Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be
- 1900 expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of
- 1901 the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the

- 1902 positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney 1903 accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate 1904 1905 counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds 1906 shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as 1907 state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal 1908 assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of 1909 supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district 1910 the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the 1911 1912 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such information to the Department of Finance and Administration which 1913 1914 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget 1915 Office.
- 1916 (5) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the 1917 duties of a legal assistant regardless of the source of funding 1918 for such legal assistants.
- 1919 SECTION 79. Section 25-31-10, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 1920 brought forward as follows:
- 1921 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time 1922 criminal investigator.
- 1923 (2) The district attorneys of the Fifth, Ninth, Tenth,
 1924 Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth,
 1925 Seventeenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first Circuit Court Districts
 1926 may appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for
- 1927 a total of two (2) full-time criminal investigators.

- 1928 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Third,
 1929 Fourth, Nineteenth and Twenty-third Circuit Court Districts may
 1930 appoint two (2) additional full-time criminal investigators for a
- 1931 total of three (3) full-time criminal investigators.
- 1932 (4) The district attorney of the Seventh Circuit Court
- 1933 District may appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal
- 1934 investigator for a total of four (4) full-time criminal
- 1935 investigators.
- 1936 (5) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
- 1937 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
- 1938 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.
- 1939 (6) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
- 1940 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more than
- 1941 Sixty-three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000.00) per annum, to be
- 1942 determined at the discretion of the district attorney based upon
- 1943 the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
- 1944 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
- 1945 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
- 1946 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law
- 1947 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other
- 1948 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
- 1949 assistant to a district attorney.
- 1950 (7) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the
- 1951 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training
- 1952 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq. The total expenses
- 1953 associated with attendance by criminal investigators at the Law

- 1954 Enforcement Officers Training Program shall be paid out of the 1955 funds of the appropriate district attorney.
- 1956 (8) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the 1957 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of 1958 funding for such criminal investigators.
- 1959 **SECTION 80.** Section 99-36-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 1960 brought forward as follows:
- 99-36-7. (1) (a) In addition to the full-time legal 1961 1962 assistants to the district attorney authorized by Section 25-31-5, the district attorney in each circuit court district in this state 1963 1964 shall, subject to the approval of and upon the order of the senior circuit court judge of the district, employ one (1) person to 1965 1966 serve at the will and pleasure of the district attorney as a 1967 "victim assistance coordinator" who shall not be considered to be 1968 a state employee.
- 1969 The District Attorney of the First Circuit Court 1970 District may appoint one (1) additional victim assistance 1971 coordinator, and the District Attorney of the Fourteenth Circuit 1972 Court District, upon the approval of the boards of supervisors, 1973 may appoint one (1) additional victim assistance coordinator, 1974 subject to the approval of and upon the order of the senior 1975 circuit court judge of the applicable district for a total of two 1976 (2) victim assistance coordinators per district.
- 1977 (2) The duty of the victim assistance coordinator is to
 1978 ensure that a victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a
 1979 deceased victim is afforded the rights granted victims, guardians

- and relatives by Section 99-36-5. The victim assistance
 coordinator shall work closely with appropriate law enforcement
 agencies, prosecuting attorneys, the state and the judiciary in
 fulfilling that duty.
- 1984 (3) The salary of the victim assistance coordinator shall
 1985 not exceed the salary authorized for criminal investigators in
 1986 Section 25-31-10, and shall be paid jointly by the counties
 1987 comprising the circuit court district, with each county paying a
 1988 pro rata share of the salary as determined by the senior circuit
 1989 court judge.
- 1990 The board of supervisors of any county, with the 1991 approval of and upon the order of the senior circuit court judge 1992 of the district wherein such county lies, may, in addition to any victim assistance coordinator provided for in subsection (1) of 1993 this section, create the position of county victim assistance 1994 1995 coordinator. The duty of the county victim assistance coordinator 1996 shall be to cooperate with local law enforcement agencies, the 1997 county attorney and the district attorney in assuring that a 1998 victim, quardian or close relative is afforded the rights granted 1999 by Section 99-36-5. Two (2) or more counties, by action of their 2000 respective boards of supervisors, with the approval of and upon 2001 the order of the senior circuit court judge of the district 2002 wherein such counties lie, may join in establishing and 2003 maintaining the position of victim assistance coordinator to serve 2004 these counties. Any municipality, by action of its governing 2005 authority, may participate in the establishment and maintenance of

- 2006 a county victim assistance coordinator's office located within the 2007 municipality.
- 2008 (5) Any district attorney, county board of supervisors or
 2009 governing authority of a municipality which has established or is
 2010 participating in the maintenance of an office of victim assistance
 2011 coordinator may apply through the Governor's Office of State and
 2012 Federal Programs for a grant under the federal "Victims of Crimes
 2013 Act of 1984" (Public Law 98-473) to be used in the continued
 2014 operation of the victim assistance program.
- 2015 SECTION 81. (1) A special election shall be held to fill the 2016 office of circuit judge for the Twenty-first Circuit Court District. 2017 The special election shall be held on the first Tuesday in November, 2018 2025. Candidates shall file as provided in Section 23-15-977, and 2019 shall run for office and be elected as provided in Sections 2020 23-15-974 through 23-15-985, which constitute the Nonpartisan 2021 Judicial Election Act. The judge elected shall serve until January 2022 1, 2027, unless the person is re-elected to fill such office in the November, 2026, election for judicial offices. The terms of those 2023 2024 offices shall thereafter be as provided by law for circuit judges 2025 generally.
- 2026 (2) Candidates for the chancellorships and the circuit
 2027 judgeships that begin January 1, 2027, shall run for those offices
 2028 in the general election for judicial officers to be conducted in
 2029 November 2026. Candidates for the chancellorships and the circuit
 2030 judgeships that begin January 1, 2031, shall run for those offices
 2031 in the general election for judicial officers to be conducted in

- 2032 November 2030. Candidates shall file as provided in Section
- 2033 23-15-977, and shall run for office and be elected as provided in
- 2034 Sections 23-15-974 through 23-15-985, which constitute the
- 2035 Nonpartisan Judicial Election Act. The judges elected shall serve
- 2036 four-year terms to begin January 1, 2027, and/or January 1, 2031,
- 2037 as applicable and the terms of those offices shall thereafter be
- 2038 as provided for chancellors and circuit judges generally.
- 2039 **SECTION 82.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 2040 and after July 1, 2025.

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

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AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-7-7, 9-7-11, 9-7-14, 9-7-15,
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    9-7-17, 9-7-21, 9-7-23, 9-7-25, 9-7-29, 9-7-30, 9-7-31, 9-7-33,
    9-7-34, 9-7-35, 9-7-37, 9-7-39, 9-7-41, 9-7-42, 9-7-44, 9-7-46,
 3
    9-7-47, 9-7-49, 9-7-51, 9-7-54, 9-7-55, 9-7-57, 9-7-63 AND 9-7-64,
 4
 5
    MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE NUMBER OF JUDGES AND
 6
    RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH,
 7
    SIXTH, SEVENTH, NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH,
8
    SIXTEENTH, SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH, NINETEENTH, TWENTIETH,
9
    TWENTY-FIRST, TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO BRING
10
    FORWARD SECTIONS 9-7-1, 9-7-3, 9-7-5, 9-7-9, 9-7-13, 9-7-19,
    9-7-20, 9-7-27, 9-7-32, 9-7-43, 9-7-45 AND 9-7-53, MISSISSIPPI
11
    CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE NUMBER OF JUDGES AND TERMS FOR
12
13
    CIRCUIT COURTS FOR THE FIRST, THIRD, FIFTH, EIGHTH, TENTH, TWELFTH
14
    AND THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS, FOR PURPOSES OF AMENDMENT;
    TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-7, 9-5-9, 9-5-11, 9-5-15, 9-5-17, 9-5-21,
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16
    9-5-22, 9-5-23, 9-5-25, 9-5-27, 9-5-29, 9-5-31, 9-5-35, 9-5-36,
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    9-5-37, 9-5-41, 9-5-43, 9-5-45, 9-5-47, 9-5-49, 9-5-50, 9-5-51,
    9-5-55 AND 9-5-58, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE NUMBER
18
    OF JUDGES AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECOND, THIRD,
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20
    FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH, NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH,
21
    THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH, SIXTEENTH, SEVENTEENTH AND
    NINETEENTH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS
22
    9-5-1, 9-5-3, 9-5-5, 9-5-39, 9-5-40, 9-5-53, 9-5-54 AND 9-5-57
23
24
    MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE NUMBER OF JUDGES,
25
    DISTRICTS AND TERMS OF CHANCERY COURTS FOR THE FIRST, THIRD,
26
    EIGHTH, NINTH, ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, FOURTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH,
27
    TWENTIETH, FOR PURPOSES OF AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-13,
28
    9-5-19, 9-5-33 AND 9-5-38, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE
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- 29 NUMBER OF JUDGES AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECOND, THIRD,
- 30 FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH, NINTH, TENTH, THIRTEENTH,
- 31 FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH, SIXTEENTH, SEVENTEENTH AND NINETEENTH
- 32 CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 25-31-5 AND
- 33 25-31-10, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR ASSISTANT
- 34 DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS, FOR PURPOSES OF
- 35 POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 99-36-7, MISSISSIPPI
- 36 CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATORS,
- 37 FOR PURPOSES OF AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR26\SB2768A.J

Andrew Ketchings Clerk of the House of Representatives