Adopted COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill No. 724

BY: Committee

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 97-13-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 8 amended as follows:

9 97-13-13. (1) If any person shall take or remove any ballot 10 from a voting place before the close of the polls, he <u>or she</u> 11 shall, on conviction, be imprisoned in the county jail not more 12 than one (1) year, or be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars 13 (\$1,000.00), or both.

14 (2) If any person assisting an elector with voting in
15 accordance with Section 23-15-907 willfully fails to transmit the
16 ballot that was mailed to the elector with the intent of the

17 ballot not being cast and counted in the election, the person

- 18 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be
- 19 imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, and
- 20 subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars
- 21 (\$1,000.00).
- 22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 23 and after July 1, 2025.

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

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-13-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CREATE A CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR SOMEONE WHO ASSISTS AN ELECTOR WITH CASTING A BALLOT, BUT WILLFULLY FAILS TO TURN IN THE BALLOT WITH THE INTENT OF THE BALLOT NOT BEING CAST OR COUNTED IN THE ELECTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.