

By: Representative Reynolds

To: Apportionment and
ElectionsHOUSE BILL NO. 1220
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ANY
2 POLITICAL PARTY AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT POLITICAL PARTY PRIMARIES TO
3 FORM AN ELECTION INTEGRITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE FOR EACH
4 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF SUCH
5 COMMITTEES; TO PROVIDE THAT IF CERTAIN DUTIES WITH REGARD TO THE
6 CONDUCT OF PRIMARIES ARE NOT PERFORMED IN A TIMELY MANNER THE
7 CIRCUIT OR MUNICIPAL CLERK MAY NOTIFY THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
8 ELECTION INTEGRITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE OR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
9 STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SUCH FAILURE AND CALL UPON THEM TO
10 TAKE IMMEDIATE AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO INSURE THAT SUCH DUTIES
11 ARE PERFORMED IN ORDER TO INSURE THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE
12 PRIMARY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 SECTION 1. (1) The state executive committee of any
15 political party authorized to conduct political party primaries
16 shall form an election integrity assurance committee for each
17 congressional district. The state executive committee shall
18 appoint three (3) of its members to each congressional district
19 election integrity assurance committee. The members so appointed
20 shall be residents of the congressional district for which the
21 election integrity assurance committee is formed. The state
22 executive committee shall name a chairman and a secretary from
23 among the members of each committee. The state executive
24 committee shall provide to each circuit and municipal clerk a list
25 of the members of the congressional district integrity assurance
26 committee for the congressional district in which the county or
27 municipality of such clerk is located.

28 (2) If a county executive committee or a municipal executive
29 committee fails to perform in a timely manner any of the duties
30 specified in Sections 23-15-239, 23-15-265, 23-15-267, 23-15-333,
31 23-15-335 and 23-15-597 and there is no written agreement in place

32 between the county or municipal executive committee and the county
33 or municipal election commission or the circuit or municipal clerk
34 pursuant to such sections, or there is such an agreement in place
35 and it is not being executed, the circuit or municipal clerk may
36 notify the chairman and secretary of the congressional district
37 election integrity assurance committee or the chairman of the
38 state executive committee of such failure and call upon them to
39 take immediate and appropriate action to insure that such duties
40 are performed in order to secure the orderly conduct of the
41 primary. Such notification may occur on the last day by which the
42 duties are required to be performed or at such time as the circuit
43 or municipal clerk believes such notification is necessary for the
44 orderly administration of the primary.

45 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize
46 the state executive committee or a congressional district election
47 assurance committee to conduct primaries.

48 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
49 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
50 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
51 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
52 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
53 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
54 extended.

55 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
57 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.