

By: Representative Bowles

To: Constitution

HOUSE BILL NO. 399

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-369, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO DELETE THE PROVISIONS WHICH REQUIRE AN EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF  
3 THE CHIEF PURPOSE OF A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BE  
4 PRINTED ON THE ELECTION BALLOT WHENEVER THE LEGISLATURE PROPOSES A  
5 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-369, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 23-15-369. (1) (a) Whenever a constitutional amendment is  
10 submitted to the vote of the people, the full text of such  
11 amendment shall be printed \* \* \* on the ballot after the list of  
12 candidates, if any. \* \* \*

13 (b) \* \* \* The Secretary of State shall give each  
14 proposed constitutional amendment a designating number for  
15 convenient reference. This number designation shall appear on the  
16 ballot. Designating numbers shall be assigned in the order of  
17 filing or certification of the amendments. The Secretary of State  
18 shall furnish the designating number and the text of each  
19 amendment to the circuit clerk of each county in which such  
20 amendment is to be voted on.

21 (c) The full text of each proposed constitutional  
22 amendment shall be published by the Secretary of State as provided  
23 for in Section 7-3-39, and shall be posted prominently in all  
24 polling places, with copies of said proposed amendment to be  
25 otherwise available at each polling place.

26 (2) Whenever any public measure, question or matter that  
27 requires an affirmative or negative vote is submitted to a vote of  
28 the electors, the measure or matter shall be printed on the ballot



29 and also the words "FOR" or "AGAINST" to be so arranged by the  
30 proper officer so that the voter can intelligently vote his  
31 preference.

32         **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
33 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
34 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
35 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
36 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
37 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
38 extended.

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

