

By: Senator(s) Williamson

To: Judiciary; Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2253

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 9-5-7, 9-5-13, 9-5-22, 9-5-40 AND  
 2 9-5-54, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTION BY POSTS  
 3 OF CHANCELLORS IN CERTAIN CHANCERY COURT DISTRICTS; TO AMEND  
 4 SECTIONS 9-7-7, 9-7-14, 9-7-20, 9-7-32, 9-7-39, 9-7-42, 9-7-44 AND  
 5 9-7-54, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR POSTS IN CERTAIN  
 6 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICTS; TO REPEAL SECTIONS 23-15-982 AND  
 7 23-15-983, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE  
 8 CALCULATION OF VOTE IN MULTIJUDGE DISTRICTS WHEREIN CANDIDATES RUN  
 9 "IN THE HERD"; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-5-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 12 amended as follows:

13 9-5-7. There shall be three (3) chancellors for the First  
 14 Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment and election  
 15 the three (3) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and  
 16 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
 17 "Place One," "Place Two" and "Place Three."

18 **SECTION 2.** Section 9-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 19 amended as follows:

20 9-5-13. (1) There shall be three (3) chancellors for the  
 21 Third Chancery Court District.

22 (2) The chancellor of Subdistrict 3-1 shall be elected from  
 23 DeSoto County. The two (2) chancellors of Subdistrict 3-2 shall  
 24 be elected from Grenada County, Montgomery County, Panola County,  
 25 Tate County and Yalobusha County. For purposes of appointment and  
 26 election the two (2) chancellorships in Subdistrict 3-2 shall be  
 27 separate and distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment  
 28 and election only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

29 **SECTION 3.** Section 9-5-22, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 30 amended as follows:



31 9-5-22. There shall be two (2) chancellors for the Sixth  
32 Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment and election  
33 the two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and  
34 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
35 "Place One" and "Place Two."

36 **SECTION 4.** Section 9-5-40, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
37 amended as follows:

38 9-5-40. There shall be two (2) judges for the Twelfth  
39 Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment and election  
40 the two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and distinct and  
41 denominated for purposes of appointment and election only as  
42 "Place One" and "Place Two."

43 **SECTION 5.** Section 9-5-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
44 amended as follows:

45 9-5-54. There shall be two (2) chancellors for the  
46 Eighteenth Chancery Court District. For purposes of appointment  
47 and election the two (2) chancellorships shall be separate and  
48 distinct and denominated for purposes of appointment and election  
49 only as "Place One" and "Place Two."

50 **SECTION 6.** Section 9-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
51 amended as follows:

52 9-7-7. (1) There shall be three (3) judges for the First  
53 Circuit Court District.

54 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the three  
55 (3) judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
56 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One," "Place  
57 Two" and "Place Three."

58 **SECTION 7.** Section 9-7-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
59 amended as follows:

60 9-7-14. (1) There shall be two (2) circuit judges for the  
61 Third Circuit Court District.

62 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
63 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for



64 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
65 "Place Two."

66 **SECTION 8.** Section 9-7-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
67 amended as follows:

68 9-7-20. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifth  
69 Circuit Court District.

70 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
71 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
72 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
73 "Place Two."

74 **SECTION 9.** Section 9-7-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
75 amended as follows:

76 9-7-32. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Tenth  
77 Circuit Court District.

78 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
79 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
80 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
81 "Place Two."

82 **SECTION 10.** Section 9-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
83 amended as follows:

84 9-7-39. (1) The Fourteenth Circuit Court District shall be  
85 comprised of the following counties:

- 86 (a) Lincoln County;
- 87 (b) Pike County; and
- 88 (c) Walthall County.

89 (2) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fourteenth Circuit  
90 Court District.

91 (3) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
92 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
93 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
94 "Place Two."

95 **SECTION 11.** Section 9-7-42, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
96 amended as follows:



97 9-7-42. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Fifteenth  
98 Circuit Court District.

99 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
100 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
101 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
102 "Place Two."

103 **SECTION 12.** Section 9-7-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
104 amended as follows:

105 9-7-44. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Sixteenth  
106 Circuit Court District.

107 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
108 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
109 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
110 "Place Two."

111 **SECTION 13.** Section 9-7-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
112 amended as follows:

113 9-7-54. (1) There shall be two (2) judges for the Twentieth  
114 Circuit Court District.

115 (2) For the purposes of appointment and election the two (2)  
116 judgeships shall be separate and distinct and denominated for  
117 purposes of appointment and election only as "Place One" and  
118 "Place Two."

119 **SECTION 14.** Sections 23-15-982 and 23-15-983, Mississippi  
120 Code of 1972, which provide for the calculation of the vote in  
121 multijudge districts in which candidates run "in the herd" are  
122 repealed.

123 **SECTION 15.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
124 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
125 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
126 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
127 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
128 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
129 extended.



130           **SECTION 16.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
131 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting  
132 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

