

**\*\*\*Adopted\*\*\***

**AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO**

**Senate Bill NO. 2366**

**By Representative(s) Committee**

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

16        SECTION 1. The purposes of this act are:

17               (a) To establish a centralized statewide qualified  
18 voter file that consists of all qualified electors who are  
19 registered to vote;

20               (b) To enhance the uniformity of the administration of  
21 elections by creating and maintaining a centralized statewide file  
22 of qualified voters;

23               (c) To increase the efficiency and decrease the cost of  
24 maintaining voter registration records and implementing the  
25 National Voter Registration Act of 1993;

26               (d) To increase the integrity of the voting process by  
27 compiling a single centralized qualified voter file from county  
28 voter roll data that will permit the name of each citizen of this  
29 state to appear only once; and

30               (e) To apply technology and information gathered by  
31 principal executive departments of state government, state  
32 agencies and local voter registrars in a manner that ensures that  
33 accurate and current records of qualified voters are maintained  
34 and to secure cooperation among all state entities to develop  
35 systems and processes that are interfaced with Centralized

36 Statewide Voter System.

37       **SECTION 2.** (1) From and after July 1, 2002, the Office of  
38 the Secretary of State, in cooperation with county election  
39 officials, shall begin to procure, implement and maintain an  
40 electronic information processing system and programs capable of  
41 maintaining a centralized database of all registered voters in the  
42 state. The system shall encompass software and hardware, at both  
43 the state and county level, software development training,  
44 conversion and support and maintenance for the system. This  
45 system shall be known as the "Statewide Centralized Voter System"  
46 and shall constitute the official record of registered voters in  
47 every county of the state.

48       (2) The Office of the Secretary of State shall develop and  
49 implement the Statewide Centralized Voter System so that the  
50 circuit clerks and other appropriate county election officials of  
51 each county shall:

52               (a) Verify that an applicant that is registering to  
53 vote in such county is not registered to vote in another county;

54               (b) Be notified automatically that a registered voter  
55 in its county has registered to vote in another county;

56               (c) Receive regular reports of death, changes of  
57 address and convictions for disenfranchising crimes that apply to  
58 voters registered in the county; and

59               (d) Retain all present functionality relating to the  
60 use of voter roll data and implement such other functionality as  
61 the state and counties consider necessary to enhance the  
62 maintenance of accurate county voter records and related jury  
63 selection and redistricting programs.

64       (3) As a part of the procurement and implementation of the  
65 system, the Office of the Secretary of State shall procure  
66 services necessary to convert current voter registration records  
67 in the counties into a standard, industry accepted file format  
68 that can be used on the Statewide Centralized Voter System.  
69 Thereafter, all official voter information shall be maintained on  
70 the Statewide Centralized Voter System. The standard industry

71 accepted format of data shall be reviewed and approved by a  
72 majority of the advisory committee created in subsection (5) of  
73 this section after consultation with the Circuit Clerks  
74 Association and the format may not be changed without majority  
75 approval of the advisory committee and without consulting the  
76 Circuit Clerks Association.

77 (4) The Secretary of State may adopt rules and regulations  
78 necessary to administer the Statewide Centralized Voter System.  
79 Such rules and regulations shall at least:

80 (a) Provide for the establishment and maintenance of a  
81 centralized database for all voter registration information in the  
82 state;

83 (b) Provide procedures for integrating data into the  
84 centralized database;

85 (c) Provide security to insure that only the  
86 appropriate county election officials can add information to,  
87 delete information from and modify information in the system;

88 (d) Provide appropriate local election officials access  
89 to the system, including the ability to download copies of the  
90 industry standard file, for all purposes related to their official  
91 duties, including, but not limited to, exclusive access for the  
92 purpose of printing of all local pollbooks;

93 (e) Provide security and protection of all information  
94 in the system and monitor the system to ensure that unauthorized  
95 access is not allowed;

96 (f) Provide a procedure that will allow the appropriate  
97 county election officials to identify the precinct and subprecinct  
98 to which a voter should be assigned; and

99 (g) Provide a procedure for phasing in or converting  
100 existing manual and computerized voter registration systems in  
101 counties to the Statewide Centralized Voter System.

102 (5) The Secretary of State shall establish an advisory  
103 committee to assist in developing system specifications,  
104 procurement, implementation and maintenance of the Statewide  
105 Centralized Voter System. The committee shall include two (2)

106 representatives from the Circuit Clerks Association; one (1)  
107 representative from the Election Commissioners Association; one  
108 (1) representative from the Democratic Party selected by the  
109 Secretary of State from a list of three (3) names provided to the  
110 Secretary of State from the party; one (1) representative from the  
111 Republican Party selected by the Secretary of State from a list of  
112 three (3) names provided to the Secretary of State from the party;  
113 one (1) independent member selected by the Secretary of State; and  
114 the Secretary of State shall serve as the chairman of the advisory  
115 committee.

116 (6) (a) Social security numbers, telephone numbers and date  
117 of birth and age information in statewide, district, county and  
118 municipal voter registration files shall be exempt from and shall  
119 not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction  
120 under the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983.

121 (b) Copies of statewide, district, county or municipal  
122 voter registration files, excluding social security numbers,  
123 telephone numbers and date of birth and age information, shall be  
124 provided to any person in accordance with the Mississippi Public  
125 Records Act of 1983 at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of  
126 production.

127 **SECTION 3.** Sections 23-15-139 and 23-15-140, Mississippi  
128 Code of 1972, which provide for a statewide voter registration  
129 record, are hereby repealed.

130 **SECTION 4.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
131 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
132 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
133 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
134 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
135 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
136 extended.

137 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
138 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting  
139 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended; provided that federal  
140 legislation providing funding to implement the provisions of this

141 act is adopted.