

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Municipalities

SENATE BILL NO. 2297

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 21-3-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN IN CITIES OPERATING  
3 UNDER A CODE CHARTER FORM OF GOVERNMENT MUST BE RESIDENTS OF THE  
4 WARD THEY REPRESENT FOR A PERIOD OF SIX CONSECUTIVE MONTHS PRIOR  
5 TO THE DATE OF THE ELECTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 21-3-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 21-3-9. The mayor and members of the board of aldermen shall  
10 be qualified electors of the municipality and, in addition, the  
11 aldermen elected from and by wards shall:

12 (a) Be residents of their respective wards; and

13 (b) Have been residents of their respective wards for a  
14 period of six (6) consecutive months prior to the date of the  
15 election.

16 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
17 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
18 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
19 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
20 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
21 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
22 extended.

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