

By: Representatives Denny, Bell (65th),
Sykes

To: Apportionment and
Elections; Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 809
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO ESTABLISH A
2 SECURE INTERNET WEBSITE TO PERMIT REGISTERED ELECTORS TO MAKE
3 CHANGES TO THEIR NAME, ADDRESS OR OTHER INFORMATION SET FORTH IN
4 THE ELECTOR'S EXISTING VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION; TO AMEND
5 SECTION 23-15-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT
6 CERTAIN CHANGES TO VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION THAT ARE MADE ON
7 SUCH WEBSITE SHALL BE CONSIDERED A WRITTEN REQUEST TO TRANSFER THE
8 ELECTOR'S REGISTRATION TO A NEW WARD OR VOTING PRECINCT; AND FOR
9 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) (a) The Secretary of State shall, with the
12 support of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, establish
13 a secure Internet website to permit registered electors to change
14 the their name, address or other information set forth in the
15 elector's existing voter registration record.

16 (b) Upon the request of an elector through the secure
17 website, the software used by the Secretary of State for
18 processing applications through the website shall provide for
19 verification that:

20 (i) The elector has a current and valid
21 Mississippi driver's license or photo identification card issued



22 by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and the number for
23 that driver's license or photo identification card provided by the
24 applicant matches the number for the elector's driver's license or
25 photo identification card that is on file with the Mississippi
26 Department of Public Safety;

27 (ii) The name and date of birth provided by the
28 voter matches the name and date of birth that is on file with the
29 Mississippi Department of Public Safety; and

30 (iii) The information provided by the elector
31 matches the information on file with the Mississippi Department of
32 Public Safety.

33 If any of the information does not match that on file with
34 the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, the changes shall be
35 rejected.

36 (2) Any person who attempts to change registration
37 information under this section shall be subject to the penalties
38 for false registration provided for in Section 97-13-25.

39 (3) The Secretary of State and the Department of Public
40 Safety shall enter into a memorandum of understanding providing
41 for the sharing of information required to facilitate the
42 requirements of this section.

43 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
44 amended as follows:

45 23-15-13. (1) An elector who moves from one ward or voting
46 precinct to another ward within the same municipality or voting



47 precinct within the same county shall not be disqualified to vote,
48 but he or she shall be entitled to have his or her registration
49 transferred to his or her new ward or voting precinct upon making
50 written request therefor at any time up to thirty (30) days prior
51 to the election at which he or she offers to vote, and if the
52 removal occurs within thirty (30) days of such election he or she
53 shall be entitled to vote in his or her new ward or voting
54 precinct by affidavit ballot as provided in Section 23-15-573.

55 (2) If an elector requests a change in his or her address
56 under Section 1 of this act and the address is located in a
57 precinct in the county or municipality that differs from the
58 precinct as reflected in the then current registration records,
59 the request shall be treated in the same manner as a written
60 request to transfer the elector's registration under subsection
61 (1) of this section.

62 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
63 and after July 1, 2016.

