

By: Senator(s) England

To: Elections

SENATE BILL NO. 2589
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-805, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO MODIFY THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING PROCESS BY REQUIRING THAT
3 THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAINTAIN A CENTRAL SITE ON THE INTERNET TO
4 MAKE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AND EASILY
5 SEARCHABLE; TO PROVIDE THAT CANDIDATES, CANDIDATE COMMITTEES AND
6 POLITICAL COMMITTEES MAY FILE REPORTS USING THE ONLINE FILING
7 SYSTEM CREATED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE; AND FOR RELATED
8 PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 23-15-805, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 23-15-805. (1) (a) Candidates and candidate committees for
13 state, state district, and legislative district offices, and every
14 political committee, which makes reportable contributions to or
15 expenditures in support of or in opposition to a candidate for any
16 such office or makes reportable contributions to or expenditures
17 in support of or in opposition to a statewide ballot measure,
18 shall file all reports required under this * * * chapter with the
19 Office of the Secretary of State. Candidates, candidate
20 committees and political committees may file all reports required
21 under this chapter through the Secretary of State's online filing



22 system and may file via facsimile, electronic mail, postal mail or
23 hand delivery.

24 (b) The Secretary of State shall maintain a central
25 site on the internet to make accessible to the public and
26 searchable all publicly available election-related reports and
27 information. Reports shall be searchable by the identifiable
28 variables on the report, including, but not limited to, candidate,
29 office sought, itemized contribution, itemized expenditure, amount
30 of contribution and amount of expenditure. In this section, the
31 term "election-related report" means any report, designation or
32 statement required to be filed under this chapter.

33 (* * *2) Candidates and candidate committees for county or
34 county district office, and every political committee which makes
35 reportable contributions to or expenditures in support of or in
36 opposition to a candidate for such office or makes reportable
37 contributions to or expenditures in support of or in opposition to
38 a countywide ballot measure or a ballot measure affecting part of
39 a county, excepting a municipal ballot measure, shall file all
40 reports required by this section in the office of the circuit
41 clerk of the county in which the election occurs, or directly to
42 the Office of the Secretary of State * * *. The circuit clerk
43 shall forward copies of all reports to the Office of the Secretary
44 of State. Candidates, candidate committees and political
45 committees may file all reports required under this chapter
46 through the Secretary of State's online filing system, and any



47 reports forwarded by the circuit clerk to the Secretary of State
48 shall be posted to the online filing system.

49 (* * *3) Candidates for municipal office, and every
50 political committee which makes reportable contributions to or
51 expenditures in support of or in opposition to a candidate for
52 such office, or makes reportable contributions to or expenditures
53 in support of or in opposition to a municipal ballot measure shall
54 file all reports required by this article in the office of the
55 municipal clerk of the municipality in which the election occurs,
56 or directly to the Office of the Secretary of State * * *. The
57 municipal clerk shall forward copies of all reports to the Office
58 of the Secretary of State. Candidates, candidate committees and
59 political committees may file all reports required under this
60 chapter through the Secretary of State's online filing system, and
61 any reports forwarded by the municipal clerk to the Secretary of
62 State shall be posted to the online filing system.

63 (* * *4) The Secretary of State, the circuit clerks and the
64 municipal clerks shall make all reports received under this
65 subsection available for public inspection and copying and shall
66 preserve the reports for a period of five (5) years.

67 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
68 and after February 1, 2028, and shall stand repealed January 31,
69 2028.

