## VOTER IDENTIFICATION INITIATIVE

- (1) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2), A qualified elector who votes in a primary or general election, either in person at the polls or in person in the office of the circuit clerk, shall present a government issued photo identification before being allowed to vote.
- (b) A qualified elector who does not have a government issued photo identification and who cannot afford such identification may obtain a state issued photo identification free of charge from the Mississippi Department of Public Safety. The elector must show appropriate identifying documents required by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety as provided by law.
- (2) (a) An elector living and voting in a state-licensed care facility shall not be required to show a government issued photo identification before being allowed to vote.
- (b) An elector who has a religious objection to being photographed will be allowed to cast an affidavit ballot, and the elector, within five days after the election, shall execute an affidavit in the appropriate circuit clerk's office affirming that the exemption applies.
- (c) An elector who has a government issued photo identification, but is unable to present that identification when voting, shall file an affidavit ballot, and the elector, within five days after the election, shall present the government issued photo identification to the appropriate circuit clerk.
- (3) This provision shall not be construed to require photo identification to register to vote. This provision only requires government issued photo identification for casting a ballot.
- (4) The Legislature shall enact legislation to implement the provisions of this section of the constitution.

Depending on the level of participation, these free photo identifications could cost the State of Mississippi up to \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) to be paid from the State General Fund. This would be a reduction of the same amount of revenue to the State of Mississippi as these photo identification cards presently are charged for and collected by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety.



Serial No. 27

## **AFFIDAVIT**

I, Joseph Edgar Fillingane, am the sponsor of a proposed initiative related to voter identification and that I hereby affirm that I am a qualified elector (registered voter) in the State of Mississippi. (Miss. Code Ann. §23-17-1 (1972).

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 15th day of January, 2009.

Joseph Edgar Fillingane

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, this the 15 day of January, 2009.

An BBrandon

(SEAL)
My Commission Expires:

MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE NOTARY PUBLIC MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 13, 2011 BONDED THRU STEGALL NOTARY SERVICE