

By: Representative Endt

To: Judiciary A;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 157

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 25-31-10 AND 99-3-1, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS TO MAKE ARRESTS;  
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 25-31-10, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time  
8 criminal investigator. Criminal investigators shall be authorized  
9 to make arrests.

10 (2) The district attorneys of the Third, Fifth, Ninth,  
11 Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth and  
12 Twentieth Circuit Court Districts may appoint one (1) additional  
13 full-time criminal investigator for a total of two (2) full-time  
14 criminal investigators.

15 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth and  
16 Seventh and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may appoint two (2)  
17 additional full-time criminal investigators for a total of three  
18 (3) full-time criminal investigators.

19 (4) No district attorney or assistant district attorney  
20 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any  
21 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

22 (5) The full and complete compensation for all public duties  
23 rendered by said criminal investigators shall be not less than  
24 Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000.00) per annum, nor more than  
25 Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) per annum, to be  
26 determined at the discretion of the district attorney based upon

27 the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal  
28 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid  
29 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. Provided, however, the  
30 maximum salary under this subsection for a criminal investigator  
31 who has a law degree may be supplemented by the district attorney  
32 from other available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary  
33 for a legal assistant to a district attorney.

34 (6) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the  
35 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training  
36 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of  
37 1972. The total expenses associated with attendance by criminal  
38 investigators at the Law Enforcement Officers Training Program  
39 shall be paid out of the funds of the appropriate district  
40 attorney.

41 SECTION 2. Section 99-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
42 amended as follows:

43 99-3-1. Arrests for crimes and offenses may be made by the  
44 sheriff or his deputy or by any constable or conservator of the  
45 peace within his county, or by any marshal or policeman of a city,  
46 town or village within the same, or by a criminal investigator  
47 appointed under Section 25-31-10, or by any United States Marshal  
48 or Deputy United States Marshal, or, when in cooperation with  
49 local law enforcement officers, by any other federal law  
50 enforcement officer who is employed by the United States  
51 Government, authorized to effect an arrest for a violation of the  
52 United States Code, and authorized to carry a firearm in the  
53 performance of his duties. Private persons may also make arrests.

54 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
55 and after its passage.