

By: Representative Smith (39th)

To: Fees and Salaries of
Public Officers;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 994

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT THE ANNUAL SALARIES OF THE FULL-TIME DISTRICT
3 ATTORNEYS SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE ANNUAL SALARIES OF THE CIRCUIT
4 COURT JUDGES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 25-3-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 25-3-35. (1) The annual salaries of the following judges
9 are fixed as follows, to begin at the commencement of the next
10 term of office immediately succeeding the existing term:

11	Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.....	\$100,900.00
12	Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court.....	98,900.00
13	Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....	98,300.00

14 However, in addition to their present official duties, there
15 are imposed upon the Supreme Court Justices the extra duties of
16 making a special study of existing laws and reporting to each
17 regular session of the Legislature such constructive suggestions
18 as they may deem necessary for the improvement of the
19 administration of justice, and of advising and counseling with the
20 State Librarian in the selection of law books for purchase and use
21 in the State Law Library, advising with the librarian thereof upon
22 the removal from the library of any books which may be the least
23 frequently used, and for the placing of same in a convenient
24 location so as to provide additional space for such books and
25 other current publications which may be more frequently used or
26 called for. For such extra services each justice, from and after
27 July 1, 1997, shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the
28 present salaries of the justices to aggregate One Hundred Thousand

29 Nine Hundred Dollars (\$100,900.00) for the Chief Justice,
30 Ninety-eight Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$98,900.00) for the
31 Presiding Justice, and Ninety-eight Thousand Three Hundred Dollars
32 (\$98,300.00) for Associate Justices, per annum. As each existing
33 term expires and the above-captioned salaries become effective in
34 due course, the extra duties and compensation provided for shall
35 cease.

36 (2) The annual salaries of the judges of the Court of
37 Appeals of Mississippi are fixed as follows:

38	Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.....	\$94,300.00
39	Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals	
40	each.....	91,500.00

41 (3) The annual salaries of the chancery and circuit court
42 judges are fixed as follows:

43	Chancery Judges, each.....	\$88,700.00
44	Circuit Judges, each.....	88,700.00

45 In addition to their present official duties, there are
46 imposed upon the chancery and circuit court judges the extra
47 duties of making a special study of existing laws relating to
48 trial courts and reporting to the Supreme Court of the State of
49 Mississippi such constructive suggestions as they may deem
50 necessary for the improvement of the administration of justice,
51 which shall be recommended to the Legislature by the Supreme Court
52 in the manner provided by law. The judges shall advise and
53 supervise in the purchase of law books for the libraries of each
54 district, and shall study and evaluate the inventory of books and
55 facilities now existing in the libraries of each district to
56 effect the removal and relocation of obsolete publications so as
57 to provide additional space for those books and current
58 publications more frequently used. The judges shall study the
59 existing rules promulgated by the circuit and chancery court
60 judicial associations governing the operation of chancery and
61 circuit courts, and revise the same pursuant to existing laws.
62 For such extra services each judge, from and after July 1, 1997,
63 shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the present salaries
64 of the judges to aggregate Eighty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred
65 Dollars (\$88,700.00) per annum for each judge. Upon the
66 expiration of the existing term, the above-captioned salaries

67 become effective in due course, and the extra duties and
68 compensation provided for shall cease.

69 (4) The Supreme Court shall prepare a payroll for chancery
70 judges and circuit judges and submit such payroll to the
71 Department of Finance and Administration.

72 (5) The annual salaries of the full-time district attorneys
73 shall be an amount equal to the annual salaries of the circuit
74 court judges.

75 (6) The annual salary of the full-time legal assistants
76 shall be not less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) nor
77 more than Sixty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$67,500.00),
78 as established by the district attorney.

79 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
80 is directed to submit this act, immediately upon approval by the
81 Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a
82 veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the
83 United States District Court for the District of Columbia in
84 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,
85 as amended and extended.

86 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
87 and after July 1, 1999, if it is effectuated on or before that
88 date under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended
89 and extended. If it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
90 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended, after July 1, 1999,
91 this act shall take effect and be in force from and after the date
92 it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of
93 1965, as amended and extended.