

By: Representative Smith (39th)

To: Fees and Salaries of  
Public Officers;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1132

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE SALARIES OF THE ELECTED JUDICIARY; AND FOR RELATED  
3 PURPOSES.

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

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

7 25-3-35. (1) The annual salaries of the following judges  
8 are fixed as follows, to begin at the commencement of the next  
9 term of office immediately succeeding the existing term:

- 10 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court..... \$110,900.00
- 11 Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court..... 108,900.00
- 12 Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each..... 108,300.00

13 However, in addition to their present official duties, there  
14 are imposed upon the Supreme Court Justices the extra duties of  
15 making a special study of existing laws and reporting to each  
16 regular session of the Legislature such constructive suggestions  
17 as they may deem necessary for the improvement of the  
18 administration of justice, and of advising and counseling with the  
19 State Librarian in the selection of law books for purchase and use  
20 in the State Law Library, advising with the librarian thereof upon  
21 the removal from the library of any books which may be the least  
22 frequently used, and for the placing of same in a convenient  
23 location so as to provide additional space for such books and  
24 other current publications which may be more frequently used or  
25 called for. For such extra services each justice, from and after  
26 the effective date of House Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_, 1999 Regular Session,  
27 shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the present salaries

28 of the justices to aggregate One Hundred Ten Thousand Nine Hundred  
29 Dollars (\$110,900.00) for the Chief Justice, One Hundred Eight  
30 Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$108,900.00) for the Presiding  
31 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..... \$104,300.00  
39 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each.... 101,500.00

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

42 Chancery Judges, each..... \$98,700.00  
43 Circuit Judges, each..... 98,700.00

44 In addition to their present official duties, there are  
45 imposed upon the chancery and circuit court judges the extra  
46 duties of making a special study of existing laws relating to  
47 trial courts and reporting to the Supreme Court of the State of  
48 Mississippi such constructive suggestions as they may deem  
49 necessary for the improvement of the administration of justice,  
50 which shall be recommended to the Legislature by the Supreme Court  
51 in the manner provided by law. The judges shall advise and  
52 supervise in the purchase of law books for the libraries of each  
53 district, and shall study and evaluate the inventory of books and  
54 facilities now existing in the libraries of each district to  
55 effect the removal and relocation of obsolete publications so as  
56 to provide additional space for those books and current  
57 publications more frequently used. The judges shall study the  
58 existing rules promulgated by the circuit and chancery court  
59 judicial associations governing the operation of chancery and  
60 circuit courts, and revise the same pursuant to existing laws.  
61 For such extra services each judge, from and after the effective  
62 date of House Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_, 1999 Regular Session, shall receive a  
63 sum sufficient when added to the present salaries of the judges to  
64 aggregate Ninety-eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$98,700.00)  
65 per annum for each judge. Upon the expiration of the existing

66 term, the above-captioned salaries become effective in due course,  
67 and the extra duties and compensation provided for shall cease.

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

71 (5) The annual salary of the full-time district attorneys  
72 shall be Seventy-nine Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Dollars  
73 (\$79,830.00).

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

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

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