

By: Representatives Coleman (65th),  
Blackmon, Hudson, Nettles, Wallace

To: Fees and Salaries of  
Public Officers

HOUSE BILL NO. 1297  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-7-123, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE DEPUTY CIRCUIT CLERKS TO GIVE SURETY BONDS BEFORE  
3 ENTERING THE DUTIES OF THE APPOINTMENT AND TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD  
4 OF SUPERVISORS TO PAY THE DEPUTY CLERK'S BOND; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 9-7-123, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 9-7-123. (1) The clerk of the circuit court shall have  
10 power, with the approbation of the court, or of the judge in  
11 vacation, to appoint one or more deputies, who shall take the oath  
12 of office and may give bond, and who thereupon shall have power to  
13 do and perform all the acts and duties which their principal may  
14 lawfully do; such approval, when given by the judge in vacation,  
15 shall be in writing, and shall be entered on the minutes of the  
16 court at the next term.

17 (2) Each deputy clerk of the circuit court, before he enters  
18 upon the duties of the appointment, shall take the oath of office,  
19 and may give bond, with sufficient surety, to be payable,  
20 conditioned and approved as provided by law, in a penalty equal to  
21 three percent (3%) of the sum of all the state and county taxes  
22 shown by the assessment rolls and the levies to have been  
23 collectible in the county for the year immediately preceding the  
24 commencement of the term of office for the circuit clerk.  
25 However, such bond shall not exceed the amount of One Hundred  
26 Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00). The bond shall cover all monies  
27 coming into the hands of the deputy clerk by law or order of the

28 court. The board of supervisors, in its discretion, may pay the  
29 bond on behalf of the deputy clerk.

30 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
31 and after July 1, 1999.