

By: Senator(s) Gordon

To: Fees, Salaries and
Administration;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2177

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.....	<u>\$108,400.00</u>
11	Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court.....	<u>106,400.00</u>
12	Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....	<u>105,800.00</u>

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 Senate Bill No. 2177, 1999 Regular Session,
27 shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the present salaries

28 of the justices to aggregate One Hundred Eight Thousand Four
29 Hundred Dollars (\$108,400.00) for the Chief Justice, One Hundred
30 Six Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$106,400.00) for the Presiding
31 Justice, and One Hundred Five Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars
32 (\$105,800.00) 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..... \$101,800.00
39 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each..... 99,000.00

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

42 Chancery Judges, each..... \$96,200.00
43 Circuit Judges, each..... 96,200.00

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 Senate Bill No. 2177, 1999 Regular Session, shall receive
63 a sum sufficient when added to the present salaries of the judges
64 to aggregate Ninety-six Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$96,200.00)
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 respectively effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
92 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.