

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled **BILL**:

S.B. No. 2303: Per diem; Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Judges, Public Service and Transportation Commissioners.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.

2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

9 SECTION 1. Section 25-3-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 25-3-43. (1) When any chancery judge, county judge or
12 circuit judge shall be required to travel in the performance of
13 his official duties, such judge shall receive as expenses of such
14 travel the mileage allowance and a reimbursement for other actual
15 and necessary expenses incurred in such travel as provided for
16 public officers and employees in Section 25-3-41, Mississippi Code
17 of 1972. This shall be the entire travel allowances or travel
18 expenses received by such judges.

19 (2) Chancery judges and circuit judges shall direct requests
20 for reimbursement for the travel expenses authorized pursuant to
21 this section to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court shall
22 submit such requests to the Department of Finance and
23 Administration.

24 (3) The Supreme Court shall have the power to adopt rules
25 and regulations regarding the administration of travel expenses
26 authorized pursuant to this section.

27 (4) In any county in which is located a State Penitentiary,
28 the board of supervisors, in order to compensate the justice court
29 judges who are required to travel to the State Penitentiary, is
30 authorized to reimburse justice court judges' mileage in the
31 amount authorized by Section 25-3-41, but not to exceed One

32 Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month, such monies to be paid from
33 the general county fund of such county.

34 (5) In addition to the regular salary provided by Section
35 25-3-35 and the mileage reimbursement provided by Section 25-3-41,
36 each Supreme Court Justice and each judge of the Court of Appeals
37 shall receive an expense allowance as specified in this
38 subsection. The expense allowance shall be equal to the maximum
39 daily expense rate allowable to employees of the federal
40 government for travel in the high rate geographical area of
41 Jackson, Mississippi, as may be established by federal
42 regulations, per day, for each day while actually attending to
43 judicial duties in Jackson, Mississippi, not to exceed twenty (20)
44 days per month.

45 SECTION 2. Section 9-4-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
46 amended as follows:

47 9-4-13. (1) The judges of the Court of Appeals shall
48 receive salaries as provided for in Section 25-3-35, shall be
49 reimbursed for mileage expenses incurred in performing their
50 duties at the rate authorized by law for public officials and
51 employees as provided for in Section 25-3-41, and shall receive an
52 expense allowance as provided for in Section 25-3-43.

53 (2) Staff attorneys, law clerks and all other employees of
54 the Court of Appeals shall be of the same grade classification as
55 Supreme Court employees performing the same or similar duties.

56 SECTION 3. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
57 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
58 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
59 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
60 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
61 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
62 extended.

63 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
64 and after July 1, 1999, or the date it is effectuated under
65 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
66 extended, whichever date is later.

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT AND JUDGES OF THE COURT
3 OF APPEALS SHALL RECEIVE A DAILY EXPENSE ALLOWANCE IN THE SAME
4 AMOUNT AS THE FEDERAL EXPENSE ALLOWANCE RATE, WHICH SHALL BE IN
5 ADDITION TO THEIR REGULAR SALARY AND MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT; TO
6 AMEND SECTION 9-4-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY
7 THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE:

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE:

X _____
Bennie L. Turner

X _____
Ed Perry

X _____
Dick Hall

X _____
Percy W. Watson

X _____
Barbara Blackmon

X _____
Ted Foster