

By: Representative Mitchell

To: Fees and Salaries of
Public Officers

HOUSE BILL NO. 77

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 19-5-171, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE PER DIEM FOR PUBLIC UTILITY
3 DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MEETINGS FOR
4 WHICH COMMISSIONERS MAY BE COMPENSATED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 19-5-171, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 19-5-171. (1) Every resident citizen of the county in which
9 is located any district created under Sections 19-5-151 through
10 19-5-207, of good reputation, being the owner of land or the
11 conductor of a business situated within the district and being
12 over twenty-five (25) years of age and of sound mind and judgment,
13 shall be eligible to hold the office of commissioner.

14 (2) Except as provided in Section 19-5-164(3), each person
15 appointed or elected as a commissioner, before entering upon the
16 discharge of the duties of the person's office, shall be required
17 to execute a bond payable to the State of Mississippi in the penal
18 sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) conditioned that the
19 person will faithfully discharge the duties of the office. Each
20 bond shall be approved by the clerk of the board of supervisors
21 and filed with the clerk.

22 (3) Each commissioner shall take and subscribe to an oath of
23 office prescribed in Section 268, Mississippi Constitution of
24 1890, before the clerk of the board of supervisors that the person
25 will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of
26 commissioner, which oath shall also be filed with the clerk and
27 preserved with the official bond.



28 (4) The commissioners so appointed or elected and qualified
29 shall be compensated for their services for each meeting of the
30 board of commissioners attended, either regular or special, at a
31 rate to be fixed by the board of supervisors, not to exceed the
32 rate of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) per meeting and shall be reimbursed
33 for all expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of their
34 official duties in accordance with Section 25-3-41. However, in
35 no one (1) calendar year shall any commissioner be compensated for
36 more than thirty-six (36) meetings.

37 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
38 is hereby directed to submit this act, immediately upon approval
39 by the Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to
40 a veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the
41 United States District Court for the District of Columbia in
42 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,
43 as amended and extended.

44 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after October 1, 2001, if it is effectuated on or before that
46 date under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended
47 and extended. If it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
48 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended, after October 1,
49 2001, this act shall take effect and be in force from and after
50 the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting Rights
51 Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

