

By: Senator(s) Thames, Furniss, Dawkins, Dearing, Dickerson, Farris, Frazier, Gollott, Gordon, Harden, Huggins, Hyde-Smith, Jackson, Posey, Stogner, Walden, Walls, Williamson

To: Fees, Salaries and Administration; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2794
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS; TO AMEND
3 SECTION 25-3-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE
4 SALARIES OF THE ELECTED JUDICIARY, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND LEGAL
5 ASSISTANTS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-10, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
6 TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS EMPLOYED BY
7 DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-3-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 25-3-31. The annual salaries of the following elected state
12 and district officers are fixed as follows:

13	Governor.....	<u>\$111,980.00</u>
14	Attorney General.....	<u>99,880.00</u>
15	Secretary of State.....	<u>82,500.00</u>
16	Commissioner of Insurance.....	<u>82,500.00</u>
17	State Treasurer.....	<u>82,500.00</u>
18	State Auditor of Public Accounts.....	<u>82,500.00</u>
19	Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.....	<u>82,500.00</u>
20	Transportation Commissioners.....	<u>71,500.00</u>
21	Public Service Commissioners.....	<u>71,500.00</u>

22 The above fixed salary of the Governor shall be the reference
23 amount utilized in computing average compensation and earned
24 compensation pursuant to Section 25-11-103(f) and Section
25 25-11-103(k) and to related sections which require such
26 computations.

27 **SECTION 2.** Section 25-3-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
28 amended as follows:



29 25-3-35. (1) The annual salaries of the following judges
30 are fixed as follows, to begin at the commencement of the next
31 term of office immediately succeeding the existing term:

32 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court..... \$115,390.00
33 Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court..... 113,190.00
34 Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.... 112,530.00

35 However, in addition to their present official duties, there
36 are imposed upon the Supreme Court justices the extra duties of
37 making a special study of existing laws and reporting to each
38 regular session of the Legislature such constructive suggestions
39 as they may deem necessary for the improvement of the
40 administration of justice, and of advising and counseling with the
41 State Librarian in the selection of law books for purchase and use
42 in the State Law Library, advising with the librarian thereof upon
43 the removal from the library of any books which may be the least
44 frequently used, and for the placing of same in a convenient
45 location so as to provide additional space for such books and
46 other current publications which may be more frequently used or
47 called for. For such extra services each justice, from and after
48 June 17, 1999, shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the
49 present salaries of the justices to aggregate One Hundred Fifteen
50 Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$115,390.00) for the Chief
51 Justice, One Hundred Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars
52 (\$113,190.00) for the presiding justice, and One Hundred Twelve
53 Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$112,530.00) for associate
54 justices, per annum. As each existing term expires and the
55 above-captioned salaries become effective in due course, the extra
56 duties and compensation provided for shall cease.

57 (2) The annual salaries of the judges of the Court of
58 Appeals of Mississippi are fixed as follows:

59 Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals..... \$108,130.00
60 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each... 105,050.00



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

63 Chancery Judges, each..... \$104,170.00
64 Circuit Judges, each..... 104,170.00

65 In addition to their present official duties, there are
66 imposed upon the chancery and circuit court judges the extra
67 duties of making a special study of existing laws relating to
68 trial courts and reporting to the Supreme Court of the State of
69 Mississippi such constructive suggestions as they may deem
70 necessary for the improvement of the administration of justice,
71 which shall be recommended to the Legislature by the Supreme Court
72 in the manner provided by law. The judges shall advise and
73 supervise in the purchase of law books for the libraries of each
74 district, and shall study and evaluate the inventory of books and
75 facilities now existing in the libraries of each district to
76 effect the removal and relocation of obsolete publications so as
77 to provide additional space for those books and current
78 publications more frequently used. The judges shall study the
79 existing rules promulgated by the circuit and chancery court
80 judicial associations governing the operation of chancery and
81 circuit courts, and revise the same pursuant to existing laws.
82 For such extra services each judge, from and after June 17, 1999,
83 shall receive a sum sufficient when added to the present salaries
84 of the judges to aggregate One Hundred Four Thousand One Hundred
85 Seventy Dollars (\$104,170.00) per annum for each judge. Upon the
86 expiration of the existing term, the above-captioned salaries
87 become effective in due course, and the extra duties and
88 compensation provided for shall cease.

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



92 (5) The annual salary of the full-time district attorneys
93 shall be Eighty-seven Thousand Eight Hundred Thirteen Dollars
94 (\$87,813.00).

95 (6) The annual salary of the full-time legal assistants
96 shall be not less than Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
97 (\$16,500.00) nor more than Seventy-four Thousand Two Hundred Fifty
98 Dollars (\$74,250.00), as established by the district attorney.

99 **SECTION 3.** Section 25-31-10, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
100 amended as follows:

101 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time
102 criminal investigator.

103 (2) The district attorneys of the Third, Fifth, Ninth,
104 Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth and
105 Twentieth Circuit Court Districts may appoint one (1) additional
106 full-time criminal investigator for a total of two (2) full-time
107 criminal investigators.

108 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth and
109 Seventh and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may appoint two (2)
110 additional full-time criminal investigators for a total of three
111 (3) full-time criminal investigators.

112 (4) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
113 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
114 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

115 (5) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
116 rendered by said criminal investigators shall be not more than
117 Forty-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$49,500.00) per annum,
118 to be determined at the discretion of the district attorney based
119 upon the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
120 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
121 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
122 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law
123 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other



124 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
125 assistant to a district attorney.

126 (6) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the
127 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training
128 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of
129 1972. The total expenses associated with attendance by criminal
130 investigators at the Law Enforcement Officers Training Program
131 shall be paid out of the funds of the appropriate district
132 attorney.

133 **SECTION 4.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
134 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
135 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
136 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
137 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
138 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
139 extended.

140 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
141 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
142 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended, or January 1, 2004,
143 whichever is later.

