

By: Representative Dedeaux

To: Fees and Salaries of  
Public Officers; County  
Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 25

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-61, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF  
3 ANY COUNTY MAY PAY TO GRAND JURORS AND PETIT JURORS IN THE  
4 CHANCERY, CIRCUIT AND SPECIAL EMINENT DOMAIN COURTS SHALL NOT BE  
5 GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT ESTABLISHED UNDER FEDERAL LAW FOR  
6 ATTENDANCE OF GRAND AND PETIT JURORS IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURTS;  
7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-7-61, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 25-7-61. (1) Fees of jurors shall be payable as follows:

12 (a) Grand jurors and petit jurors in the chancery,  
13 county, circuit and special eminent domain courts shall be paid an  
14 amount to be set by the board of supervisors, not to be less than  
15 Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per day and not to be greater than  
16 the amount established under federal law for attendance of grand  
17 and petit jurors in federal district courts, plus mileage  
18 authorized in Section 25-3-41. In the trial of all cases where  
19 jurors are in charge of bailiffs and are not permitted to  
20 separate, the sheriff with the approval of the trial judge may pay  
21 for room and board of jurors on panel for actual time of trial.

22 No grand juror shall receive any compensation except mileage  
23 unless he shall have been sworn as provided by Section 13-5-45;  
24 and no petit juror except those jurors called on special venires  
25 shall receive any compensation authorized under this subsection  
26 except mileage unless he shall have been sworn as provided by  
27 Section 13-5-71.

28 (b) Jurors making inquisitions of idiocy, lunacy or of  
29 unsound mind and jurors on coroner's inquest shall be paid Five

30 Dollars (\$5.00) per day plus mileage authorized in Section 25-3-41  
31 by the county treasurer on order of the board of supervisors on  
32 certificate of the clerk of the chancery court in which such  
33 inquisition is held.

34 (c) Jurors in the justice courts shall be paid an  
35 amount of not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day and not more  
36 than Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per day, to be established by the  
37 board of supervisors. In all criminal cases in the justice court  
38 wherein the prosecution fails, the fees of jurors shall be paid by  
39 the county treasurer on order of the board of supervisors on  
40 certificate of the county attorney in all counties that have  
41 county attorneys, otherwise by the justice court judge.

42 (2) Any juror may return the fees provided as compensation  
43 for service as a juror to the county which paid for such person's  
44 service as a juror. The fees returned to the county may be  
45 earmarked for a particular purpose to be selected by the juror,  
46 including:

47 (a) The local public library;

48 (b) Local law enforcement;

49 (c) The Mississippi Fire Fighters Memorial Burn Center  
50 Fund created in Section 7-9-70, Mississippi Code of 1972; or

51 (d) Any other governmental agency.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after October 1, 2004.