

By: Representative Holland

To: Fees and Salaries of  
Public Officers; County  
Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 593

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-36, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE SALARIES OF JUSTICE COURT JUDGES BY A CERTAIN  
3 PERCENTAGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-3-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 25-3-36. (1) From and after October 1, 1998, every justice  
8 court judge shall receive as full compensation for his or her  
9 services and in lieu of any and all other fees, costs or  
10 compensation heretofore authorized for such justice court judge,  
11 an annual salary based upon the population of his or her county  
12 according to the 1990 federal decennial census; however, no  
13 justice court judge shall be paid less than the salary authorized  
14 under this section to be paid the justice court judge based upon  
15 the population of the county according to the 1980 federal  
16 decennial census. The amount of which salary shall be determined  
17 as follows:

18 (a) In counties with a population of more than two  
19 hundred thousand (200,000), a salary of Fifty-five Thousand Five  
20 Hundred Fifty-nine Dollars (\$55,559.00).

21 (b) In counties with a population of more than one  
22 hundred fifty thousand (150,000) but not more than two hundred  
23 thousand (200,000), a salary of Fifty-one Thousand Five Dollars  
24 (\$51,005.00).

25 (c) In counties with a population of more than  
26 seventy-five thousand (75,000) but not more than one hundred fifty

27 thousand (150,000), a salary of Forty-six Thousand Four Hundred  
28 Fifty-one Dollars (\$46,451.00).

29 (d) In counties with a population of more than  
30 forty-nine thousand (49,000) but not more than seventy-five  
31 thousand (75,000), a salary of Forty Thousand Seventy-six Dollars  
32 (\$40,076.00).

33 (e) In counties with a population of more than  
34 thirty-four thousand (34,000) but not more than forty-nine  
35 thousand (49,000), a salary of Thirty-four Thousand Six Hundred  
36 Eleven Dollars (\$34,611.00).

37 (f) In counties with a population of more than  
38 twenty-four thousand five hundred (24,500) but not more than  
39 thirty-four thousand (34,000), a salary of Thirty-two Thousand  
40 Seven Hundred Eighty-nine Dollars (\$32,789.00).

41 (g) In counties with a population of more than  
42 twenty-one thousand (21,000) but not more than twenty-four  
43 thousand five hundred (24,500), a salary of Twenty-nine Thousand  
44 One Hundred Forty-six Dollars (\$29,146.00).

45 (h) In counties with a population of more than sixteen  
46 thousand five hundred (16,500) but not more than twenty-one  
47 thousand (21,000), a salary of Twenty-five Thousand Five Hundred  
48 Three Dollars (\$25,503.00).

49 (i) In counties with a population of more than twelve  
50 thousand (12,000) but not more than sixteen thousand five hundred  
51 (16,500), a salary of Twenty-one Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty  
52 Dollars (\$21,860.00).

53 (j) In counties with a population of more than eight  
54 thousand (8,000) but not more than twelve thousand (12,000), a  
55 salary of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00).

56 (k) In counties with a population of eight thousand  
57 (8,000) or less, a salary of Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred  
58 Dollars (\$14,400). The board of supervisors of any county having  
59 two (2) judicial districts and two (2) justice court judges for

60 the county shall pay the justice court judges an amount equal to  
61 that hereinabove provided for judges in the next higher population  
62 category per year, if said justice court judges maintain regular  
63 office hours and are personally present in the office they  
64 maintain for at least thirty (30) hours per week. In any county  
65 having a population greater than eight thousand (8,000) but less  
66 than eight thousand five hundred (8,500) according to the 1990  
67 federal decennial census and in which U.S. Highway 61 and  
68 Mississippi Highway 4 intersect, the board of supervisors may, in  
69 its discretion, pay such justice court judges an additional amount  
70 not to exceed the sum of Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Fifty  
71 Dollars (\$11,550.00) per year, payable beginning April 1, 1997.  
72 In any county having a population greater than ten thousand  
73 (10,000) but less than ten thousand five hundred (10,500)  
74 according to the 1990 federal decennial census and in which  
75 Mississippi Highway 3 and Mississippi Highway 6 intersect, the  
76 board of supervisors may, in its discretion, pay such justice  
77 court judges an additional amount not to exceed One Thousand Four  
78 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,450.00) per year, payable beginning  
79 April 1, 1997. In any county having a population greater than  
80 twenty-four thousand seven hundred (24,700) and less than  
81 twenty-four thousand nine hundred (24,900), according to the 1990  
82 federal census, wherein Mississippi Highways 15 and 16 intersect,  
83 the board of supervisors shall pay such justice court judge an  
84 additional amount equal to Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
85 (\$2,500.00) per year.

86 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this  
87 section, in the event that the number of justice court judges  
88 authorized pursuant to Section 9-11-2(1) is exceeded pursuant to  
89 the provisions of Section 9-11-2(4), the aggregate of the salaries  
90 paid to the justice court judges of such a county shall not exceed  
91 the amount sufficient to pay the number of justice court judges  
92 authorized pursuant to Section 9-11-2(1) and such amount shall be

93 equally divided among those justice court judges continuing to  
94 hold office under the provisions of Section 9-11-2(4).

95 (3) From and after January 1, 1984, all fees, costs, fines  
96 and penalties charged and collected in the justice court shall be  
97 paid to the clerk of the justice court for deposit, along with  
98 monies from cash bonds and other monies which have been forfeited  
99 in criminal cases, into the general fund of the county as provided  
100 in Section 9-11-19; and the clerk of the board of supervisors  
101 shall be authorized and empowered, upon approval by the board of  
102 supervisors, to make disbursements and withdrawals from the  
103 general fund of the county in order to pay any reasonable and  
104 necessary expenses incurred in complying with this section,  
105 including payment of the salaries of justice court judges as  
106 provided by subsection (1) of this section. The provisions of  
107 this subsection shall not, except as to cash bonds and other  
108 monies which have been forfeited in criminal cases, apply to  
109 monies required to be deposited in the justice court clerk  
110 clearing account as provided in Section 9-11-18, Mississippi Code  
111 of 1972.

112 (4) The salaries provided for in subsection (1) of this  
113 section shall be payable monthly by warrant drawn by the clerk of  
114 the board of supervisors on the general fund of the county;  
115 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and  
116 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be  
117 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month. If  
118 a pay date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments  
119 shall be made on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or  
120 legal holiday.

121 (5) Provided, that the salary of any justice court judge  
122 shall not be reduced during his term of office as a result of a  
123 population change following a federal decennial census.

124 (6) Any justice court judge who is unable to attend and hold  
125 court by reason of being under suspension by the Commission on

126 Judicial Performance or the Mississippi Supreme Court shall not  
127 receive a salary while under such suspension.

128       **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
129 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
130 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
131 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
132 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
133 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
134 extended.

135       **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
136 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting  
137 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.