

By: Representative Warren

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 203  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 99-11-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 EXTEND THE REPEALER ON VENUE FOR INDICTMENTS BY THE STATE GRAND  
3 JURY; TO AMEND SECTION 27, LAWS OF 1993, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER  
4 382, LAWS OF 1998, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 480, LAWS OF 1999, AS  
5 AMENDED BY CHAPTER 471, LAWS OF 2002, TO EXTEND THE REPEALER ON  
6 THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-5, MISSISSIPPI  
7 CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE NUMBER OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS  
8 AUTHORIZED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 99-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
11 reenacted and amended as follows:

12 99-11-3. (1) The local jurisdiction of all offenses, unless  
13 otherwise provided by law, shall be in the county where committed.  
14 But, if on the trial the evidence makes it doubtful in which of  
15 several counties, including that in which the indictment or  
16 affidavit alleges the offense was committed, such doubt shall not  
17 avail to procure the acquittal of the defendant.

18 (2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall  
19 not apply to indictments returned by a state grand jury. The  
20 venue of trials for indictments returned by a state grand jury  
21 shall be as provided by the State Grand Jury Act. This subsection  
22 shall stand repealed from and after July 1, 2011.

23 **SECTION 2.** Section 27, Chapter 553, Laws of 1993, as amended  
24 by Chapter 382, Laws of 1998, as amended by Chapter 480, Laws of  
25 1999, as amended by Chapter 471, Laws of 2002, is amended as  
26 follows:

27 Section 27. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
28 and after its passage, and, with the exception of Section 22,  
29 shall stand repealed from and after July 1, 2011.

30                   **SECTION 3.** Section 25-31-5, Mississippi Code of 1972,  
31 is amended as follows:

32                   25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal  
33 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court  
34 districts:

35                   (a) First Circuit Court District..... eight (8)  
36 legal assistants.

37                   (b) Second Circuit Court District..... nine (9)  
38 legal assistants.

39                   (c) Third Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
40 legal assistants.

41                   (d) Fourth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
42 legal assistants.

43                   (e) Fifth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
44 legal assistants.

45                   (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
46 legal assistants.

47                   (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... ten (10)  
48 legal assistants.

49                   (h) Eighth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
50 legal assistants.

51                   (i) Ninth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
52 legal assistants.

53                   (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
54 legal assistants.

55                   (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
56 legal assistants.

57                   (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District..... three (3)  
58 legal assistants.

59                   (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
60 legal assistants.

61                   (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... three (3)  
62 legal assistants.

63                   (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
64 legal assistants.

65                   (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
66 legal assistants.

67                   (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... six (6)  
68 legal assistants.

69                   (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
70 legal assistants.

71                   (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
72 legal assistants.

73                   (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
74 legal assistants.

75                   (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
76 legal assistants.

77                   (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
78 legal assistants.

79           (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant  
80 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of  
81 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following  
82 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the  
83 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe  
84 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following  
85 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one  
86 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a  
87 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses  
88 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such  
89 district pursuant to this subsection:

90                   (a) First Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
91 legal assistants.

92                   (b) Second Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
93 legal assistants.

94                   (c) Third Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
95 legal assistants.

96                   (d) Fourth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
97 legal assistants.

98                   (e) Fifth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
99 legal assistants.

100                  (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
101 legal assistants.

102                  (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
103 legal assistants.

104                  (h) Eighth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
105 legal assistants.

106                  (i) Ninth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
107 legal assistants.

108                  (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
109 legal assistants.

110                  (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
111 legal assistants.

112                  (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
113 legal assistants.

114                  (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
115 legal assistants.

116                  (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
117 legal assistants.

118                  (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
119 legal assistants.

120                  (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
121 legal assistants.

122                  (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
123 legal assistants.

124                  (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
125 legal assistants.

126                  (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
127 legal assistants.

128                  (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

129 legal assistants.

130 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... two (2)

131 legal assistants.

132 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... two (2)

133 legal assistants.

134 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a  
135 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits  
136 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the  
137 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to  
138 this section.

139 **SECTION 4.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
140 shall submit Section 3 of this act, immediately upon approval by  
141 the Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a  
142 veto, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the  
143 United States District Court for the District of Columbia in  
144 accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,  
145 as amended and extended.

146 **SECTION 5.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect  
147 and be in force from and after its passage. The remainder of this  
148 act shall take effect and be in force from and after the date it  
149 is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,  
150 as amended and extended, or July 1, 2005, whichever is later.