

By: Representative Coleman (29th)

To: Judiciary A;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1137

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE OFFICE OPERATING ALLOWANCE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-31-8, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 25-31-8. From and after July 1, 1979, in all circuit court
8 districts in this state existing now or hereafter created, the
9 district attorney shall receive from sums appropriated for such
10 purpose from the General Fund or any special fund of the State of
11 Mississippi, an office operating allowance for the necessary
12 expenses of operating the office of the district attorney,
13 including stenographic help, and other items and expenditures
14 necessary and incident to the investigation of criminal cases, the
15 general expenses of the office of the investigation of criminal
16 cases, the general expenses of the office of the district attorney
17 for preparing and/or trying felony cases and all other cases
18 requiring the services of the district attorney, the sum of
19 Twenty-six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000.00) for each district, and an
20 additional Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each assistant
21 authorized by Section 25-31-5(1) as of January 1, 1996. All
22 expenditures made from said office operating allowances shall be
23 upon written requisition of the duly elected district attorney to
24 the State Auditor, as otherwise provided by law. The district
25 attorney may delegate to the board of supervisors of any county in
26 his district the responsibility and authority to employ and set
27 the salary of not more than one (1) employee for the office of

28 such district attorney, such salary to be paid as other
29 expenditures are paid from the funds provided by this section.
30 Such employee shall be deemed to be appointed and employed by the
31 board of supervisors and the salary shall not be deemed to be a
32 pecuniary benefit provided by the district attorney's office.

33 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
34 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
35 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
36 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
37 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
38 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
39 extended.

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