

By: Representatives Tullos, Barnett, Evans  
(91st), Ladner, Reynolds, Rushing, Sanford,  
Hobgood-Wilkes

To: Judiciary B;  
Appropriations

## HOUSE BILL NO. 957

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-6-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE SALARY THRESHOLD TO DETERMINE STATUS AS A FULL-TIME OR  
3 PART-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 45-6-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 45-6-3. For the purposes of this chapter, the following  
8 words shall have the meanings ascribed herein, unless the context  
9 shall otherwise require:

10 (a) "Commission" means the Criminal Justice Planning  
11 Commission.

12 (b) "Board" means the Board on Law Enforcement Officer  
13 Standards and Training.

14 (c) "Law enforcement officer" means any person  
15 appointed or employed full time by the state or any political  
16 subdivision thereof, or by the state military department as  
17 provided in Section 33-1-33, who is duly sworn and vested with  
18 authority to bear arms and make arrests, and whose primary



responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of criminals and the enforcement of the criminal and traffic laws of this state and/or the ordinances of any political subdivision thereof. The term "law enforcement officer" also includes employees of the Department of Corrections who are designated as law enforcement officers by the Commissioner of Corrections pursuant to Section 47-5-54, and includes those district attorney criminal investigators who are designated as law enforcement officers. However, the term "law enforcement officer" shall not mean or include any elected official or any person employed as a legal assistant to a district attorney in this state, compliance agents of the State Board of Pharmacy, or any person or elected official who, subject to approval by the board, provides some criminal justice related services for a law enforcement agency. As used in this paragraph, "appointed or employed full time" means any person who is receiving gross compensation for his duties as a law enforcement officer of \* \* \* Four Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$475.00) or more per week or \* \* \* Two Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$2,050.00) or more per month.

(d) "Part-time law enforcement officer" shall mean any person appointed or employed in a part-time, reserve or auxiliary capacity by the state or any political subdivision thereof who is duly sworn and vested with authority to bear arms and make arrests, and whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of criminals and the



44 enforcement of the criminal and traffic laws of this state or the  
45 ordinances of any political subdivision thereof. However, the  
46 term "part-time law enforcement officer" shall not mean or include  
47 any person or elected official who, subject to approval by the  
48 board, provides some criminal justice related services for a law  
49 enforcement agency. As used in this paragraph, "appointed or  
50 employed" means any person who is performing such duties at any  
51 time whether or not they receive any compensation for duties as a  
52 law enforcement officer provided that such compensation is less  
53 than \* \* \* Four Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$475.00) per week  
54 or \* \* \* Two Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$2,050.00) per month.

55 (e) "Law enforcement trainee" shall mean any person  
56 appointed or employed in a full-time, part-time, reserve or  
57 auxiliary capacity by the state or any political subdivision  
58 thereof for the purposes of completing all the selection and  
59 training requirements established by the board to become a law  
60 enforcement officer or a part-time law enforcement officer. Such  
61 individuals shall not have the authority to use force, bear arms,  
62 make arrests or exercise any of the powers of a peace officer  
63 unless:

64 (i) The trainee is under the direct control and  
65 supervision of a law enforcement officer;

66 (ii) The trainee was previously certified under  
67 this chapter; or



68 (iii) The trainee is a certified law enforcement  
69 officer in a reciprocating state.

70 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
71 and after July 1, 2020.

