

By: Representatives Barton, Anthony

To: County Affairs;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 719
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-1-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE LIMIT ON THE COMPENSATION OF CHANCERY CLERKS AND
3 CIRCUIT CLERKS; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-225, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
4 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF CIRCUIT CLERKS FOR
5 CONDUCTING ELECTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
6 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY TAX ASSESSORS AND
7 COLLECTORS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
8 PROVIDE THAT CHANCERY CLERKS SHALL RECEIVE A CERTAIN ANNUAL SUM
9 FOR ATTENDING THE MEETINGS OF BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS; TO BRING
10 FORWARD SECTION 25-7-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PERTAINS
11 TO THE FEES PAID TO THE CIRCUIT CLERK FOR EACH DAY'S ATTENDANCE
12 UPON THE CIRCUIT COURT TERM, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT;
13 TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 25-7-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
14 PERTAINS TO FEES CHARGED BY SHERIFFS, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE
15 AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
16 INCREASE CERTAIN FEES CHARGED BY MARSHALS AND CONSTABLES; TO BRING
17 FORWARD SECTION 41-61-59, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PERTAINS
18 TO THE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS, DEPUTY MEDICAL
19 EXAMINERS AND DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER INVESTIGATORS, FOR PURPOSES
20 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE
21 OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION THAT COUNTY MEDICAL
22 EXAMINERS RECEIVE FOR EACH COMPLETED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF
23 DEATH; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

25 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-1-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
26 amended as follows:

27 9-1-43. (1) After making deductions for employer
28 contributions paid by the chancery or circuit clerk to the Public



29 Employees' Retirement System under Sections 25-11-106.1 and
30 25-11-123(f) (4), employee salaries and related salary expenses,
31 and expenses allowed as deductions by Schedule C of the Internal
32 Revenue Code, no office of the chancery clerk or circuit clerk of
33 any county in the state shall receive fees as compensation for the
34 chancery clerk's or circuit clerk's services in excess of * * *
35 Ninety-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$99,500.00). All such
36 fees received by the office of chancery or circuit clerks that are
37 in excess of the salary limitation shall be deposited by such
38 clerk into the county general fund on or before April 15 for the
39 preceding calendar year. If the chancery clerk or circuit clerk
40 serves less than one (1) year, then he shall not receive as
41 compensation any fees in excess of that portion of the salary
42 limitation that can be attributed to his time in office on a pro
43 rata basis. Upon leaving office, income earned by any clerk in
44 his last full year of office but not received until after his last
45 full year of office shall not be included in determining the
46 salary limitation of the successor clerk. There shall be exempted
47 from the provisions of this subsection any monies or commissions
48 from private or governmental sources which: (a) are to be held by
49 the chancery or circuit clerk in a trust or custodial capacity as
50 prescribed in subsections (4) and (5); or (b) are received as
51 compensation for services performed upon order of a court or board
52 of supervisors which are not required of the chancery clerk or
53 circuit clerk by statute.



54 (2) It shall be unlawful for any chancery clerk or circuit
55 clerk to use fees in excess of * * * Ninety-nine Thousand Five
56 Hundred Dollars (\$99,500.00), to pay the salaries or actual or
57 necessary expenses of employees who are related to such clerk by
58 blood or marriage within the first degree of kinship according to
59 the civil law method of computing kinship as provided in Sections
60 1-3-71 and 1-3-73. However, the prohibition of this subsection
61 shall not apply to any individual who was an employee of the
62 clerk's office prior to the date his or her relative was elected
63 as chancery or circuit clerk. The spouse and/or any children of
64 the chancery clerk or circuit clerk employed in the office of the
65 chancery clerk may be paid a salary; however, the combined annual
66 salaries of the clerk, spouse and any child of the clerk may not
67 exceed an amount equal to the salary limitation.

68 (3) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall be liable
69 on their official bond for the proper deposit and accounting of
70 all monies received by his office. The State Auditor shall
71 promulgate uniform accounting methods for the accounting of all
72 sources of income by the offices of the chancery and circuit
73 clerk.

74 (4) There is created in the county depository of each county
75 a clearing account to be designated as the "chancery court clerk
76 clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all such
77 monies as the clerk of the chancery court shall receive from any
78 person complying with any writ of garnishment, attachment,



79 execution or other like process authorized by law for the
80 enforcement of child support, spousal support or any other
81 judgment; (b) any portion of any fees required by law to be
82 collected in civil cases which are to pay for the service of
83 process or writs in another county; and (c) any other money as
84 shall be deposited with the court which by its nature is not, at
85 the time of its deposit, public monies, but which is to be held by
86 the court in a trust or custodial capacity in a case or proceeding
87 before the court. The clerk of the chancery court shall account
88 for all monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and
89 shall be authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such
90 account at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as
91 shall be proper and in accordance with law.

92 The following monies paid to the chancery clerk shall be
93 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):

94 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,
95 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree
96 in any civil case in chancery; (b) all fees collected for land
97 recordings, charters, notary bonds, certification of decrees and
98 copies of any documents; (c) all land redemption and mineral
99 documentary stamp commissions; and (d) any other monies or
100 commissions from private or governmental sources for statutory
101 functions which are not to be held by the court in a trust
102 capacity. Such fees as shall exceed the salary limitations shall
103 be maintained in a bank account in the county depository and



104 accounted for separately from those monies paid into the chancery
105 court clerk clearing account.

106 (5) There is created in the county depository in each county
107 a clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk
108 civil clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all
109 such monies and fees as the clerk of the circuit court shall
110 receive from any person complying with any writ of garnishment,
111 attachment, execution or any other like process authorized by law
112 for the enforcement of a judgment; (b) any portion of any fees
113 required by law or court order to be collected in civil cases;
114 (c) all fees collected for the issuance of marriage licenses; and
115 (d) any other money as shall be deposited with the court which by
116 its nature is not, at the time of its deposit, public monies but
117 which is to be held by the court in a trust or custodial capacity
118 in a case or proceeding before the court.

119 There is created in the county depository in each county a
120 clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk
121 criminal clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a)
122 all such monies as are received in criminal cases in the circuit
123 court pursuant to any order requiring payment as restitution to
124 the victims of criminal offenses; (b) any portion of any fees and
125 fines required by law or court order to be collected in criminal
126 cases; and (c) all cash bonds as shall be deposited with the
127 court. The clerk of the circuit court shall account for all
128 monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and shall be



129 authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such account,
130 at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as shall be
131 proper and in accordance with law; however, such monies as are
132 forfeited in criminal cases shall be paid by the clerk of the
133 circuit court to the clerk of the board of supervisors for deposit
134 in the general fund of the county.

135 The following monies paid to the circuit clerk shall be
136 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):
137 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,
138 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree
139 in any civil action in circuit court; (b) copies of any documents;
140 and (c) any other monies or commissions from private or
141 governmental sources for statutory functions which are not to be
142 held by the court in a trust capacity.

143 (6) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall establish
144 and maintain a cash journal for recording cash receipts from
145 private or government sources for furnishing copies of any papers
146 of record or on file, or for rendering services as a notary
147 public, or other fees wherein the total fee for the transaction is
148 Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or less. The cash journal entry shall
149 include the date, amount and type of transaction, and the clerk
150 shall not be required to issue a receipt to the person receiving
151 such services. The State Auditor shall not take exception to the
152 furnishing of copies or the rendering of services as a notary by
153 any clerk free of charge.



154 In any county having two (2) judicial districts, whenever the
155 chancery clerk serves as deputy to the circuit clerk in one (1)
156 judicial district and the circuit clerk serves as deputy to the
157 chancery clerk in the other judicial district, the chancery clerk
158 may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal
159 maintained for chancery clerk receipts, for recording the cash
160 receipts paid to him as deputy circuit clerk, and the circuit
161 clerk may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal
162 maintained for circuit clerk receipts, for recording the cash
163 receipts paid to him as deputy chancery clerk. The cash receipts
164 collected by the chancery clerk in his capacity as deputy circuit
165 clerk and the cash receipts collected by the circuit clerk in his
166 capacity as deputy chancery clerk shall be subject to the salary
167 limitation prescribed under subsection (1).

168 (7) Any clerk who knowingly shall fail to deposit funds or
169 otherwise violate the provisions of this section shall be guilty
170 of a misdemeanor in office and, upon conviction thereof, shall be
171 fined in an amount not to exceed double the amount that he failed
172 to deposit, or imprisoned for not to exceed six (6) months in the
173 county jail, or be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

174 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-225, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
175 amended as follows:

176 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**
177 **follows:]**



178 23-15-225. (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such
179 compensation, payable monthly out of the county treasury, which
180 the board of supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual
181 basis in the following amounts:

182 (a) For counties with a total population of more than
183 two hundred thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Thirty-one
184 Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$31,395.00), but not
185 less than Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

186 (b) For counties with a total population of more than
187 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred
188 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand
189 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than
190 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

191 (c) For counties with a total population of more than
192 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand
193 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One
194 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine
195 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

196 (d) For counties with a total population of more than
197 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand
198 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven
199 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine
200 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

201 (e) For counties with a total population of more than
202 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-five



203 thousand (35,000), an amount not to exceed Nineteen Thousand Three
204 Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$19,320.00), but not less than Nine
205 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

206 (f) For counties with a total population of more than
207 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand
208 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred
209 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six
210 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

211 (g) For counties with a total population of more than
212 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),
213 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety
214 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four
215 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

216 (h) For counties with a total population of more than
217 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an
218 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars
219 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred
220 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

221 (i) For counties with a total population of not more
222 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand
223 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six
224 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents
225 (\$6,641.25).

226 (j) For counties having two (2) judicial districts, the
227 board of supervisors of the county may allow, in addition to the



228 sums prescribed herein, in its discretion, an amount not to exceed
229 Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00).

230 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or
231 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy
232 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by
233 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to
234 the sums prescribed herein.

235 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the
236 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in
237 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the
238 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the
239 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of
240 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall
241 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as
242 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in
243 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund
244 of the county.

245 (4) In any case where an amount has been allowed by the
246 board of supervisors pursuant to this section, such amount shall
247 not be reduced or terminated during the term for which the
248 registrar was elected.

249 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other
250 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as
251 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of Two
252 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per year. This payment



253 shall be for the performance of his or her duties in regard to the
254 conduct of elections and the performance of his or her other
255 duties.

256 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other
257 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as
258 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a
259 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of
260 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in
261 registration of voters.

262 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional
263 compensation authorized under this section for services as county
264 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as
265 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on
266 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

267 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**
268 **follows:]**

269 (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such compensation,
270 payable monthly out of the county treasury, which the board of
271 supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual basis in the
272 following amounts:

273 (a) For counties with a total population of more than
274 two hundred thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Thirty-one
275 Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$31,395.00), but not
276 less than Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).



277 (b) For counties with a total population of more than
278 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred
279 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand
280 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than
281 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

282 (c) For counties with a total population of more than
283 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand
284 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One
285 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine
286 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

287 (d) For counties with a total population of more than
288 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand
289 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven
290 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine
291 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

292 (e) For counties with a total population of more than
293 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-five
294 thousand (35,000), an amount not to exceed Nineteen Thousand Three
295 Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$19,320.00), but not less than Nine
296 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

297 (f) For counties with a total population of more than
298 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand
299 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred
300 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six
301 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).



302 (g) For counties with a total population of more than
303 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),
304 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety
305 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four
306 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

307 (h) For counties with a total population of more than
308 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an
309 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars
310 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred
311 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

312 (i) For counties with a total population of not more
313 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand
314 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six
315 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents
316 (\$6,641.25).

317 (j) For counties having two (2) judicial districts, the
318 board of supervisors of the county may allow, in addition to the
319 sums prescribed herein, in its discretion, an amount not to exceed
320 Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00).

321 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or
322 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy
323 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by
324 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to
325 the sums prescribed herein.



326 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the
327 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in
328 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the
329 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the
330 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of
331 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall
332 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as
333 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in
334 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund
335 of the county.

336 (4) In any case where an amount has been allowed by the
337 board of supervisors pursuant to this section, such amount shall
338 not be reduced or terminated during the term for which the
339 registrar was elected.

340 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other
341 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as
342 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of * * *
343 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year. This payment shall be
344 for the performance of his or her duties in regard to the conduct
345 of elections and the performance of his or her other duties.

346 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other
347 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as
348 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a
349 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of



350 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in
351 registration of voters.

352 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional
353 compensation authorized under this section for services as county
354 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as
355 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on
356 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

357 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**
358 **follows:]**

359 (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such compensation,
360 payable monthly out of the county treasury, which the board of
361 supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual basis in the
362 following amounts:

363 (a) For counties with a total population of more than
364 two hundred thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Thirty-one
365 Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$31,395.00), but not
366 less than Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

367 (b) For counties with a total population of more than
368 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred
369 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand
370 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than
371 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

372 (c) For counties with a total population of more than
373 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand
374 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One



375 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine
376 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

377 (d) For counties with a total population of more than
378 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand
379 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven
380 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine
381 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

382 (e) For counties with a total population of more than
383 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-five
384 thousand (35,000), an amount not to exceed Nineteen Thousand Three
385 Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$19,320.00), but not less than Nine
386 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

387 (f) For counties with a total population of more than
388 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand
389 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred
390 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six
391 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

392 (g) For counties with a total population of more than
393 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),
394 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety
395 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four
396 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

397 (h) For counties with a total population of more than
398 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an
399 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars



400 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred
401 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

402 (i) For counties with a total population of not more
403 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand
404 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six
405 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents
406 (\$6,641.25).

407 (j) For counties having two (2) judicial districts, the
408 board of supervisors of the county may allow, in addition to the
409 sums prescribed herein, in its discretion, an amount not to exceed
410 Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00).

411 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or
412 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy
413 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by
414 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to
415 the sums prescribed herein.

416 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the
417 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in
418 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the
419 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the
420 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of
421 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall
422 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as
423 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in



424 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund
425 of the county.

426 (4) In any case where an amount has been allowed by the
427 board of supervisors pursuant to this section, such amount shall
428 not be reduced or terminated during the term for which the
429 registrar was elected.

430 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other
431 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as
432 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of * * * Ten
433 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per year. This payment shall be for
434 the performance of his or her duties in regard to the conduct of
435 elections and the performance of his or her other duties.

436 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other
437 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as
438 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a
439 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of
440 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in
441 registration of voters.

442 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional
443 compensation authorized under this section for services as county
444 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as
445 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on
446 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

447 **SECTION 3.** Section 25-3-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
448 amended as follows:



449 [Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as

450 follows:]

451 25-3-3. (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in
452 this section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the
453 county and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced,
454 the actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified
455 to the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions
456 of Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of
457 gas as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions
458 of Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

459 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various
460 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as
461 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of
462 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The
463 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the
464 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed
465 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year
466 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

467 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
468 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary of
469 Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$70,560.00);

470 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
471 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than
472 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of Sixty-seven
473 Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$67,200.00);



474 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
475 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two
476 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of Sixty-four
477 Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$64,575.00);

478 (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
479 at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) but less
480 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of
481 Sixty-one Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$61,425.00);

482 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
483 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but
484 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary
485 of Fifty-eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$58,800.00);

486 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
487 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but
488 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a
489 salary of Fifty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$56,700.00);

490 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
491 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less
492 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary
493 of Fifty-five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
494 (\$55,125.00);

495 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
496 less than Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary
497 of Fifty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars (\$50,929.00).



498 (3) In addition to all other compensation paid pursuant to
499 this section, the board of supervisors shall pay to a person
500 serving as both the tax assessor and tax collector in their county
501 an additional Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.

502 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax
503 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in
504 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a
505 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

506 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
507 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,
508 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax
509 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
510 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid
511 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)
512 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor
513 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
514 (\$3,500.00) per year.

515 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
516 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall
517 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid
518 additional compensation when there is a contract between the
519 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor
520 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,
521 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax
522 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional



523 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or
524 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the
525 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

526 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of
527 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension
528 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,
529 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
530 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after
531 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified
532 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland
533 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax
534 assessor holds a valid designation from the International
535 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping
536 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or
537 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an
538 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually
539 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax
540 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment
541 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing
542 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser
543 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional
544 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning
545 the next fiscal year after completion.

546 (8) The salaries provided for in this section shall be the
547 total funds paid to the county assessors and tax collectors and



548 shall be full compensation for their services, with any fees being
549 paid to the county general fund.

550 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be
551 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by
552 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;
553 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and
554 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be
555 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or
556 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date
557 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made
558 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.

559 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**
560 **follows:]**

561 (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in this
562 section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the county
563 and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced, the
564 actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified to
565 the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of
566 Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of gas
567 as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of
568 Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

569 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various
570 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as
571 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of
572 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The



573 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the
574 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed
575 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year
576 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

577 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
578 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary
579 of * * * Seventy-five Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars
580 (\$75,560.00);

581 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
582 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than
583 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * *
584 Seventy-two Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$72,200.00);

585 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
586 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two
587 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * * Sixty-nine
588 Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$69,575.00);

589 (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
590 at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) but less
591 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * *
592 Sixty-six Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$66,425.00);

593 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
594 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but
595 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary
596 of * * * Sixty-three Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$63,800.00);



597 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
598 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but
599 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a
600 salary of * * * Sixty-one Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars
601 (\$61,700.00);

602 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
603 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less
604 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary
605 of * * * Sixty Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
606 (\$60,125.00);

607 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
608 less than Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary
609 of * * * Fifty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars
610 (\$55,929.00).

611 (3) In addition to all other compensation paid pursuant to
612 this section, the board of supervisors shall pay to a person
613 serving as both the tax assessor and tax collector in their county
614 an additional Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.

615 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax
616 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in
617 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a
618 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

619 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
620 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,
621 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax



622 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
623 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid
624 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)
625 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor
626 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
627 (\$3,500.00) per year.

628 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
629 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall
630 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid
631 additional compensation when there is a contract between the
632 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor
633 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,
634 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax
635 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional
636 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or
637 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the
638 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

639 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of
640 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension
641 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,
642 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
643 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after
644 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified
645 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland
646 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax



647 assessor holds a valid designation from the International
648 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping
649 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or
650 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an
651 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually
652 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax
653 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment
654 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing
655 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser
656 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional
657 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning
658 the next fiscal year after completion.

659 (8) The salaries provided for in this section shall be the
660 total funds paid to the county assessors and tax collectors and
661 shall be full compensation for their services, with any fees being
662 paid to the county general fund.

663 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be
664 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by
665 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;
666 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and
667 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be
668 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or
669 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date
670 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made
671 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.



672 [From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as
673 follows:]

674 (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in this
675 section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the county
676 and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced, the
677 actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified to
678 the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of
679 Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of gas
680 as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of
681 Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

682 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various
683 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as
684 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of
685 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The
686 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the
687 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed
688 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year
689 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

690 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
691 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary
692 of * * * Eighty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$80,560.00);

693 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
694 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than
695 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * *
696 Seventy-seven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$77,200.00);



697 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
698 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two
699 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * *
700 Seventy-four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars
701 (\$74,575.00);

702 (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
703 at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) but less
704 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of * * *
705 Seventy-one Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
706 (\$71,425.00);

707 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
708 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but
709 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary
710 of * * * Sixty-eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$68,800.00);

711 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
712 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but
713 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a
714 salary of * * * Sixty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars
715 (\$66,700.00);

716 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
717 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less
718 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary
719 of * * * Sixty-five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
720 (\$65,125.00);



721 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of
722 less than Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary
723 of * * * Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars
724 (\$60,929.00).

725 (3) In addition to all other compensation paid pursuant to
726 this section, the board of supervisors shall pay to a person
727 serving as both the tax assessor and tax collector in their county
728 an additional Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.

729 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax
730 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in
731 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a
732 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

733 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
734 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,
735 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax
736 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
737 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid
738 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)
739 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor
740 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
741 (\$3,500.00) per year.

742 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors
743 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall
744 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid
745 additional compensation when there is a contract between the



746 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor
747 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,
748 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax
749 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional
750 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or
751 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the
752 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

753 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of
754 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension
755 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,
756 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
757 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after
758 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified
759 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland
760 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax
761 assessor holds a valid designation from the International
762 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping
763 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or
764 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an
765 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually
766 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax
767 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment
768 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing
769 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser
770 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional



771 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning
772 the next fiscal year after completion.

773 (8) The salaries provided for in this section shall be the
774 total funds paid to the county assessors and tax collectors and
775 shall be full compensation for their services, with any fees being
776 paid to the county general fund.

777 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be
778 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by
779 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;
780 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and
781 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be
782 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or
783 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date
784 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made
785 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.

786 **SECTION 4.** Section 25-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
787 amended as follows:

788 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**
789 **follows:]**

790 25-7-9. (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge
791 the following fees:

792 (a) For the act of certifying copies of filed
793 documents, for each complete document.....\$ 1.00

794 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,
795 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,



796 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of
797 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)
798 pages..... \$ 25.00
799 (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00
800 (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,
801 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five
802 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00
803 (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,
804 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)
805 pages.....\$ 25.00
806 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00
807 (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00
808 (iv) Sectional index entries per section or
809 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00
810 (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00
811 (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on
812 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any
813 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00
814 (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or
815 on file:
816 If performed by the clerk or his employee,
817 per page.....\$.50
818 If performed by any other person,
819 per page.....\$.25
820 (ii) Entering marginal notations on



821 documents of record.....\$ 1.00

822 (e) For each day's attendance on the board of
823 supervisors, for himself and one (1) deputy, each.....\$ 20.00

824 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of
825 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable
826 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county
827 treasury, an annual sum not
828 exceeding.....\$3,000.00

829 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to
830 be approved by the chancellor:

831 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)
832 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00

833 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00

834 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total
835 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery
836 court.

837 (h) On order of the court, clerks and not more than two
838 (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each term of
839 court for attendance upon the court to get up records.

840 (i) For public service not otherwise specifically
841 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to
842 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an
843 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00

844 (j) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the
845 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00



846 The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a
847 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording
848 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such
849 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be
850 demanded before the document is recorded.

851 (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services
852 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that
853 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or
854 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or
855 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute
856 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,
857 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing
858 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The
859 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set
860 forth without additional compensation or
861 fee.....\$ 85.00

862 (3) For every civil case filed:

863 (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of
864 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established in
865 Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

866 (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the
867 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in
868 Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

869 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.
870 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings



871 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving
872 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of
873 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,
874 at the time of filing.

875 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**
876 **follows:]**

877 (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge the
878 following fees:

879 (a) For the act of certifying copies of filed
880 documents, for each complete document.....\$ 1.00

881 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,
882 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,
883 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of
884 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)
885 pages..... \$ 25.00

886 (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

887 (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,
888 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five
889 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00

890 (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,
891 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)
892 pages.....\$ 25.00

893 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00

894 (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00



895 (iv) Sectional index entries per section or
896 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00
897 (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00
898 (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on
899 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any
900 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00
901 (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or
902 on file:
903 If performed by the clerk or his employee,
904 per page.....\$.50
905 If performed by any other person,
906 per page.....\$.25
907 (ii) Entering marginal notations on
908 documents of record.....\$ 1.00
909 (e) For * * * attending the board of supervisors' * * *
910 meeting, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ * * *2,500.00
911 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of
912 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable
913 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county
914 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ * * *5,500.00
915 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to
916 be approved by the chancellor:
917 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)
918 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00
919 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00



920 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total
921 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery
922 court.

923 (h) On order of the court, clerks and not more than two
924 (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each term of
925 court for attendance upon the court to get up records.

926 (i) For public service not otherwise specifically
927 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to
928 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an
929 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00

930 (j) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the
931 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

932 The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a
933 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording
934 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such
935 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be
936 demanded before the document is recorded.

937 (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services
938 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that
939 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or
940 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or
941 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute
942 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,
943 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing
944 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The



945 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set
946 forth without additional compensation or
947 fee.....\$ 85.00

948 (3) For every civil case filed:

949 (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of
950 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established in
951 Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

952 (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the
953 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in
954 Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

955 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.
956 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings
957 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving
958 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of
959 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,
960 at the time of filing.

961 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**
962 **follows:]**

963 (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge the
964 following fees:

965 (a) For the act of certifying copies of filed
966 documents, for each complete document.....\$ 1.00

967 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,
968 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,



969 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of
 970 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)
 971 pages..... \$ 25.00
 972 (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00
 973 (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,
 974 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five
 975 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00
 976 (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,
 977 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)
 978 pages.....\$ 25.00
 979 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00
 980 (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00
 981 (iv) Sectional index entries per section or
 982 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00
 983 (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00
 984 (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on
 985 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any
 986 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00
 987 (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or
 988 on file:
 989 If performed by the clerk or his employee,
 990 per page.....\$.50
 991 If performed by any other person,
 992 per page.....\$.25
 993 (ii) Entering marginal notations on



994 documents of record.....\$ 1.00

995 (e) For * * * attending the board of supervisors' * * *

996 meeting an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ * * *5,000.00

997 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of

998 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable

999 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county

1000 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ * * *10,000.00

1001 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to

1002 be approved by the chancellor:

1003 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)

1004 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00

1005 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00

1006 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total

1007 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery

1008 court.

1009 (h) On order of the court, clerks and not more than two

1010 (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each term of

1011 court for attendance upon the court to get up records.

1012 (i) For public service not otherwise specifically

1013 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to

1014 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an

1015 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00

1016 (j) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the

1017 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00



1018 The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a
1019 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording
1020 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such
1021 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be
1022 demanded before the document is recorded.

1023 (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services
1024 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that
1025 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or
1026 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or
1027 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute
1028 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,
1029 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing
1030 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The
1031 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set
1032 forth without additional compensation or
1033 fee.....\$ 85.00

1034 (3) For every civil case filed:

1035 (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of
1036 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established in
1037 Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

1038 (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the
1039 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in
1040 Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

1041 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.
1042 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings



1043 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving
1044 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of
1045 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,
1046 at the time of filing.

1047 **SECTION 5.** Section 25-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1048 brought forward as follows:

1049 25-7-13. (1) The clerks of the circuit court shall charge
1050 the following fees:

1051 (a) Docketing, filing, marking and registering each
1052 complaint, petition and indictment.....\$ 85.00

1053 The fee set forth in this paragraph shall be the total fee
1054 for all services performed by the clerk up to and including entry
1055 of judgment with respect to each complaint, petition or
1056 indictment, including all answers, claims, orders, continuances
1057 and other papers filed therein, issuing each writ, summons,
1058 subpoena or other such instruments, swearing witnesses, taking and
1059 recording bonds and pleas, and recording judgments, orders, fiats
1060 and certificates; the fee shall be payable upon filing and shall
1061 accrue to the clerk at the time of collection. The clerk or his
1062 successor in office shall perform all duties set forth above
1063 without additional compensation or fee.

1064 (b) Docketing and filing each motion to renew judgment,
1065 notice of renewal of judgment, suggestion for a writ of
1066 garnishment, suggestion for a writ of execution and judgment



1067 debtor actions and issuing all process, filing and recording
1068 orders or other papers and swearing witnesses.....\$ 35.00

1069 (c) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be
1070 deposited to the credit of the Comprehensive Electronic Court
1071 Systems Fund established in Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

1072 (d) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be
1073 deposited to the credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund
1074 established in Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

1075 (2) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section,
1076 the clerks of the circuit court shall charge the following fees:

1077 (a) Filing and marking each order or other paper and
1078 recording and indexing same.....\$ 2.00

1079 (b) Issuing each writ, summons, subpoena, citation,
1080 capias and other such instruments.....\$ 1.00

1081 (c) Administering an oath and taking bond.....\$ 2.00

1082 (d) Certifying copies of filed documents, for each
1083 complete document.....\$ 1.00

1084 (e) Recording orders, fiats, licenses, certificates,
1085 oaths and bonds:
1086 First page.....\$ 2.00
1087 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

1088 (f) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or on
1089 file and entering marginal notations on documents of record:
1090 If performed by the clerk or his employee,
1091 per page.....\$ 1.00



1092 If performed by any other person,
1093 per page.....\$.25
1094 (g) Judgment roll entry.....\$ 5.00
1095 (h) Taxing cost and certificate.....\$ 1.00
1096 (i) For taking and recording application for marriage
1097 license, for filing and recording consent of parents when required
1098 by law, for filing and recording medical certificate, filing and
1099 recording proof of age, recording and issuing license, recording
1100 and filing returns.....\$ 35.00
1101 The clerk shall deposit Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) of each fee
1102 collected for a marriage license in the Victims of Domestic
1103 Violence Fund established in Section 93-21-117, on a monthly
1104 basis.
1105 (j) For certified copy of marriage license and search
1106 of record, the same fee charged by the Bureau of Vital Statistics
1107 of the State Board of Health.
1108 (k) For public service not particularly provided for,
1109 the circuit court may allow the clerk, per annum, to be paid by
1110 the county on presentation of the circuit court's order, the
1111 following amount.....\$5,000.00
1112 However, in the counties having two (2) judicial districts,
1113 such above allowance shall be made for each judicial district.
1114 (l) For drawing jurors and issuing venire, to be paid
1115 by the county.....\$ 5.00



1116 (m) For each day's attendance upon the circuit court
1117 term, for himself and necessary deputies allowed by the court,
1118 each to be paid by the county.....\$ 75.00

1119 (n) Summons, each juror to be paid by the county upon
1120 the allowance of the court.....\$ 1.00

1121 (o) For issuing each grand jury subpoena, to be paid by
1122 the county on allowance by the court, not to exceed Twenty-five
1123 Dollars (\$25.00) in any one (1) term of court.....\$ 1.00

1124 (p) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the
1125 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

1126 (3) On order of the court, clerks and deputies may be
1127 allowed five (5) extra days for attendance upon the court to get
1128 up records.

1129 (4) The clerk's fees in state cases where the state fails in
1130 the prosecution, or in cases of felony where the defendant is
1131 convicted and the cost cannot be made out of his estate, in an
1132 amount not to exceed Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) in one (1)
1133 year, shall be paid out of the county treasury on approval of the
1134 circuit court, and the allowance thereof by the board of
1135 supervisors of the county. In counties having two (2) judicial
1136 districts, such allowance shall be made in each judicial district;
1137 however, the maximum thereof shall not exceed Eight Hundred
1138 Dollars (\$800.00). Clerks in the circuit court, in cases where
1139 appeals are taken in criminal cases and no appeal bond is filed,
1140 shall be allowed by the board of supervisors of the county after



1141 approval of their accounts by the circuit court, in addition to
1142 the above fees, for making such transcript the rate of Two Dollars
1143 (\$2.00) per page.

1144 (5) The clerk of the circuit court may retain as his
1145 commission on all money coming into his hands, by law or order of
1146 the court, a sum to be fixed by the court not exceeding one-half
1147 of one percent (1/2 of 1%) on all such sums.

1148 (6) For making final records required by law, including, but
1149 not limited to, circuit and county court minutes, and furnishing
1150 transcripts of records, the circuit clerk shall charge Two Dollars
1151 (\$2.00) per page. The same fees shall be allowed to all officers
1152 for making and certifying copies of records or papers which they
1153 are authorized to copy and certify.

1154 (7) The circuit clerk shall prepare an itemized statement of
1155 fees for services performed, cost incurred, or for furnishing
1156 copies of any papers of record or on file, and shall submit the
1157 statement to the parties or, if represented, to their attorneys
1158 within sixty (60) days. A bill for same shall accompany the
1159 statement.

1160 **SECTION 6.** Section 25-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1161 brought forward as follows:

1162 25-7-19. (1) The sheriffs of the various counties of the
1163 State of Mississippi shall charge the following fees:

1164 (a) A uniform total fee in all criminal and civil cases
1165 for the service or attempted service of any process, summons,



1166 warrant, writ or other notice as may be required by law or the
1167 court, each.....\$ 45.00

1168 (b) In all cases where there is more than one (1)
1169 defendant residing at the same household, service on each
1170 additional defendant.....\$ 5.00

1171 (c) After final judgment has been enrolled, notice of
1172 further proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and
1173 attachment and garnishment proceedings, shall be deemed a new suit
1174 and the sheriff shall be entitled to the
1175 following fee\$ 45.00

1176 (d) Taking bonds of every kind (for purposes of this
1177 fee multiple bonds for criminal charges arising out of a single
1178 incident or transaction shall be considered a single
1179 bond).....\$ 25.00

1180 (e) Attendance in habeas corpus proceeding in vacation,
1181 eminent domain court and commitment cases.....\$ 25.00

1182 (f) On all money made by virtue of any decree,
1183 execution or attachment, or other process, the following
1184 commissions, to wit:

1185 On the first One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), five
1186 percent (5%),

1187 On the second One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), four
1188 percent (4%),

1189 On all sums over Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00),
1190 three percent (3%).



1191 (g) For all service of all process of every kind and
1192 nature issued from without the county wherein it is to be served,
1193 a fee of.....\$ 45.00

1194 In civil cases, all process sent out of the county, where
1195 issued to another county for service, shall be accompanied by a
1196 fee of Forty-five Dollars (\$45.00) to pay the sheriff's fee for
1197 his execution of such process unless the clerk or justice shall
1198 endorse on the process that the party at whose instance it issued
1199 had filed an affidavit of inability to pay costs thereof. All
1200 fees sent and unearned, and the whole of it, shall be unearned if
1201 the writ be not legally and properly executed and returned, and
1202 shall be remitted by the sheriff with the writ at his own expense.

1203 (2) (a) The sheriff shall keep a complete account of every
1204 fee of every nature, commission or charge collected by him, and
1205 shall file an itemized statement thereof monthly, under oath, with
1206 the clerk of the board of supervisors of his county who shall
1207 preserve same as a part of the records of his office, and he shall
1208 make a remittance to the clerk of the board of supervisors of his
1209 county on or before the fifteenth of each month for deposit into
1210 the general fund of the county of all said fees, commissions and
1211 charges collected during the preceding month. A fee for attempted
1212 service of process is unearned absent two (2) documented actual
1213 attempts to serve the process.

1214 (b) At least Ten Dollars (\$10.00) from each fee
1215 collected and deposited into the county's general fund under the



1216 provisions of paragraphs (a), (c) and (g) of subsection (1) of
1217 this section shall be used for the sheriffs' salaries authorized
1218 in Section 25-3-25, as such Ten Dollar (\$10.00) amount was
1219 authorized during the 2007 Regular Session in Chapter 331, Laws of
1220 2007, for the purpose of providing additional monies to the
1221 counties for sheriffs' salaries.

1222 (3) Any sheriff who shall knowingly fail to collect any fee
1223 established by law which was in fact collectible by him or having
1224 collected the fee shall fail to keep account of such fee or fail
1225 to deposit the fee with the clerk of the board of supervisors as
1226 provided by subsection (2), or such other person or office
1227 entitled thereto, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in office and,
1228 upon conviction therefor, shall be fined in an amount not to
1229 exceed double the amount he failed to collect or pay over, or
1230 imprisoned for not to exceed six (6) months in the county jail, or
1231 be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

1232 This provision shall in no way lessen the sheriff's civil
1233 liability on his bond, but shall be an additional penalty for
1234 misfeasance or nonfeasance in office.

1235 **SECTION 7.** Section 25-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1236 amended as follows:

1237 25-7-27. (1) Marshals and constables shall charge the
1238 following fees:

1239 (a) (i) In all civil and criminal cases, for each
1240 service of process, summons, warrant, writ or other



1241 notice.....\$ * * *55.00

1242 (ii) In all cases where there is more than one (1)
1243 defendant residing at the same household, for service on each
1244 additional defendant.....\$ * * *10.00

1245 (iii) For service of each process of every kind
1246 and nature issued from outside the county where it is to be
1247 served, the fees provided in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of this
1248 paragraph, as applicable, shall be assessed.

1249 (iv) When a complaining party has provided
1250 erroneous information to the clerk of the court relating to the
1251 service of process on the defendant or defendants and process
1252 cannot be served after diligent search and inquiry on oath thereof
1253 of the marshal or constable, as the case may be, charged with
1254 serving such process, the fees provided in subparagraphs (i) and
1255 (ii) of this paragraph, as applicable, shall be assessed.

1256 (v) When process has been attempted in one (1)
1257 county but the defendant is not found, and process must be served
1258 on that defendant in another county, the clerk shall notify the
1259 complaining party that an additional fee or fees must be paid
1260 before the process can be delivered to the other county.

1261 (b) After final judgment has been enrolled, further
1262 proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and
1263 attachment and garnishment proceedings shall be a new suit for
1264 which the marshal or constable shall be entitled to the following
1265 fee.....\$ * * *55.00



1266 (c) For conveying a person charged with a crime to
1267 jail, mileage reimbursement in an amount not to exceed the rate
1268 established under Section 25-3-41(2).

1269 To be paid out of the county treasury on the allowance of the
1270 board of supervisors, when the state fails in the prosecution, or
1271 the person is convicted but is not able to pay the costs.

1272 (d) For other service, the same fees allowed sheriffs
1273 for similar services.

1274 (e) For service as a bailiff in any court in a civil
1275 case, to be paid by the county on allowance of the court on
1276 issuance of a warrant therefor, an amount equal to the amount
1277 provided under Section 19-25-31 for each day, or part thereof, for
1278 which he serves as bailiff when the court is in session.

1279 (f) For serving all warrants and other process and
1280 attending all trials in state cases in which the state fails in
1281 the prosecution, to be paid out of the county treasury on the
1282 allowance of the board of supervisors without itemization,
1283 subject, however, to the condition that the marshal or constable
1284 must not have overcharged in the collection of fees for costs,
1285 contrary to the provisions of this section,
1286 annually.....\$ * * *4,500.00

1287 (2) Marshals and constables shall be paid all uncollected
1288 fees levied under subsection (1) of this section in full from the
1289 first proceeds received by the court from the guilty party or from
1290 any other source of payment in connection with the case.



1291 (3) In addition to the fees authorized to be paid to a
1292 constable under subsection (1) of this section, a constable may
1293 receive payments for collecting delinquent criminal fines in
1294 justice court pursuant to the provisions of Section 19-3-41(3).

1295 **SECTION 8.** Section 41-61-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1296 brought forward as follows:

1297 41-61-59. (1) A person's death that affects the public
1298 interest as specified in subsection (2) of this section shall be
1299 promptly reported to the medical examiner by the physician in
1300 attendance, any hospital employee, any law enforcement officer
1301 having knowledge of the death, the embalmer or other funeral home
1302 employee, any emergency medical technician, any relative or any
1303 other person present. The appropriate medical examiner shall
1304 notify the municipal or state law enforcement agency or sheriff
1305 and take charge of the body. When the medical examiner has
1306 received notification under Section 41-39-15(6) that the deceased
1307 is medically suitable to be an organ and/or tissue donor, the
1308 medical examiner's authority over the body shall be subject to the
1309 provisions of Section 41-39-15(6). The appropriate medical
1310 examiner shall notify the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics within
1311 twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the body in cases of death as
1312 described in subsection (2)(m) or (n) of this section.

1313 (2) A death affecting the public interest includes, but is
1314 not limited to, any of the following:



1315 (a) Violent death, including homicidal, suicidal or
1316 accidental death.

1317 (b) Death caused by thermal, chemical, electrical or
1318 radiation injury.

1319 (c) Death caused by criminal abortion, including
1320 self-induced abortion, or abortion related to or by sexual abuse.

1321 (d) Death related to disease thought to be virulent or
1322 contagious that may constitute a public hazard.

1323 (e) Death that has occurred unexpectedly or from an
1324 unexplained cause.

1325 (f) Death of a person confined in a prison, jail or
1326 correctional institution.

1327 (g) Death of a person where a physician was not in
1328 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding death, or in
1329 prediagnosed terminal or bedfast cases, within thirty (30) days
1330 preceding death.

1331 (h) Death of a person where the body is not claimed by
1332 a relative or a friend.

1333 (i) Death of a person where the identity of the
1334 deceased is unknown.

1335 (j) Death of a child under the age of two (2) years
1336 where death results from an unknown cause or where the
1337 circumstances surrounding the death indicate that sudden infant
1338 death syndrome may be the cause of death.



1339 (k) Where a body is brought into this state for
1340 disposal and there is reason to believe either that the death was
1341 not investigated properly or that there is not an adequate
1342 certificate of death.

1343 (l) Where a person is presented to a hospital emergency
1344 room unconscious and/or unresponsive, with cardiopulmonary
1345 resuscitative measures being performed, and dies within
1346 twenty-four (24) hours of admission without regaining
1347 consciousness or responsiveness, unless a physician was in
1348 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding presentation to
1349 the hospital, or in cases in which the decedent had a prediagnosed
1350 terminal or bedfast condition, unless a physician was in
1351 attendance within thirty (30) days preceding presentation to the
1352 hospital.

1353 (m) Death that is caused by drug overdose or which is
1354 believed to be caused by drug overdose.

1355 (n) When a stillborn fetus is delivered and the cause
1356 of the demise is medically believed to be from the use by the
1357 mother of any controlled substance as defined in Section
1358 41-29-105.

1359 (3) The State Medical Examiner is empowered to investigate
1360 deaths, under the authority hereinafter conferred, in any and all
1361 political subdivisions of the state. The county medical examiners
1362 and county medical examiner investigators, while appointed for a
1363 specific county, may serve other counties on a regular basis with



1364 written authorization by the State Medical Examiner, or may serve
1365 other counties on an as-needed basis upon the request of the
1366 ranking officer of the investigating law enforcement agency. If a
1367 death affecting the public interest takes place in a county other
1368 than the one where injuries or other substantial causal factors
1369 leading to the death have occurred, jurisdiction for investigation
1370 of the death may be transferred, by mutual agreement of the
1371 respective medical examiners of the counties involved, to the
1372 county where the injuries or other substantial causal factors
1373 occurred, and the costs of autopsy or other studies necessary to
1374 the further investigation of the death shall be borne by the
1375 county assuming jurisdiction.

1376 (4) The chief county medical examiner or chief county
1377 medical examiner investigator may receive from the county in which
1378 he serves a salary of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars
1379 (\$1,250.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in
1380 Sections 41-61-69 and 41-61-75, provided that no county shall pay
1381 the chief county medical examiner or chief county medical examiner
1382 investigator less than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per month
1383 as a salary, in addition to other compensation provided by law.
1384 In any county having one or more deputy medical examiners or
1385 deputy medical examiner investigators, each deputy may receive
1386 from the county in which he serves, in the discretion of the board
1387 of supervisors, a salary of not more than Nine Hundred Dollars
1388 (\$900.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in Sections



1389 41-61-69 and 41-61-75; however, no county shall pay the deputy
1390 medical examiners or deputy medical examiner investigators less
1391 than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per month as a salary in
1392 addition to other compensation provided by law. For this salary
1393 the chief shall assure twenty-four-hour daily and readily
1394 available death investigators for the county, and shall maintain
1395 copies of all medical examiner death investigations for the county
1396 for at least the previous five (5) years. He shall coordinate his
1397 office and duties and cooperate with the State Medical Examiner,
1398 and the State Medical Examiner shall cooperate with him.

1399 **SECTION 9.** Section 41-61-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
1400 amended as follows:

1401 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**
1402 **follows:]**

1403 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and
1404 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be
1405 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is
1406 provided:

1407 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall receive One
1408 Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00) for each completed report
1409 of investigation of death, plus the examiner's actual expenses.
1410 In addition to that fee, in cases where the cause of death was
1411 sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the medical examiner
1412 provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report, the medical
1413 examiner shall receive for completing that report an additional



1414 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred Dollars
1415 (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced training
1416 in child death investigations and presents to the county a
1417 certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State
1418 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and
1419 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene
1420 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical
1421 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

1422 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in
1423 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)
1424 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site
1425 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket
1426 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred
1427 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1428 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is
1429 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,
1430 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert
1431 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to
1432 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid
1433 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1434 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**
1435 **follows:]**

1436 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and
1437 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be



1438 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is
1439 provided:

1440 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall
1441 receive * * * One Hundred Eighty-five Dollars (\$185.00) for each
1442 completed report of investigation of death, plus the examiner's
1443 actual expenses. In addition to that fee, in cases where the
1444 cause of death was sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the
1445 medical examiner provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report,
1446 the medical examiner shall receive for completing that report an
1447 additional Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred
1448 Dollars (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced
1449 training in child death investigations and presents to the county
1450 a certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State
1451 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and
1452 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene
1453 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical
1454 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

1455 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in
1456 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)
1457 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site
1458 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket
1459 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred
1460 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1461 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is
1462 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,



1463 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert
1464 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to
1465 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid
1466 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1467 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**
1468 **follows:]**

1469 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and
1470 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be
1471 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is
1472 provided:

1473 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall
1474 receive * * * One Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$195.00) for each
1475 completed report of investigation of death, plus the examiner's
1476 actual expenses. In addition to that fee, in cases where the
1477 cause of death was sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the
1478 medical examiner provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report,
1479 the medical examiner shall receive for completing that report an
1480 additional Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred
1481 Dollars (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced
1482 training in child death investigations and presents to the county
1483 a certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State
1484 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and
1485 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene
1486 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical
1487 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.



1488 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in
1489 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)
1490 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site
1491 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket
1492 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred
1493 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1494 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is
1495 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,
1496 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert
1497 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to
1498 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid
1499 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1500 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
1501 and after July 1, 2022.

