

By: Representative Harness

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 745

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE SALARIES OF FULL-TIME DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; AND FOR
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-3-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 25-3-35. (1) The annual salaries of the following judges
8 are fixed as follows:

9 * * *

10 **From and after January 1, 2016:**

11	Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.....	\$159,000.00
12	Presiding Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....	154,833.00
13	Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....	152,250.00

14 There are imposed upon the Supreme Court justices the extra
15 duties of taking all necessary action to promote judicial
16 education in schools, intervention courts, electronic filing and
17 case management systems as developed by the Administrative Office
18 of Courts, or such other additional duties as may be assigned by



19 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. For such extra services
20 each justice, from and after January 1, 2013, shall receive a sum
21 sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set forth in this
22 subsection (1).

23 The fixed salaries in this subsection (1) shall be paid from
24 the State General Fund and from the Judicial System Operation Fund
25 created under Section 9-21-45. No less than: One Hundred Fifteen
26 Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$115,390.00) of the Chief
27 Justice's salary in this subsection (1), One Hundred Thirteen
28 Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$113,190.00) of the salary of
29 a presiding justice in this subsection (1), and One Hundred Twelve
30 Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$112,530.00) of the salary
31 of an associate justice in this subsection (1) shall be paid from
32 general fund monies; in addition, the Legislature shall
33 appropriate annually from the Judicial System Operation Fund a sum
34 sufficient to increase the salary of the Chief Justice, a
35 presiding justice and an associate justice to the levels set forth
36 in this subsection (1).

37 The fixed salaries as specified in this subsection (1) shall
38 be the exclusive and total compensation which can be reported to
39 the Public Employees' Retirement System for retirement purposes;
40 however, any judge in office on December 31, 2003, may continue to
41 report his expense allowance as part of his compensation for
42 retirement purposes.



43 (2) The annual salaries of the judges of the Court of
44 Appeals of Mississippi are fixed as follows:

45 * * *

46 **From and after January 1, 2016:**

47 Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.....\$147,578.00

48 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each.... 144,827.00

49 From and after January 1, 2013, each judge shall receive a
50 sum sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set forth in
51 this subsection (2).

52 The fixed salaries in this subsection (2) shall be paid from
53 the State General Fund and from the Judicial System Operation Fund
54 created under Section 9-21-45. No less than One Hundred Eight
55 Thousand One Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$108,130.00) of the Chief
56 Judge's salary in this subsection (2) shall be paid from general
57 fund monies; in addition, the Legislature shall appropriate
58 annually from the Judicial System Operation Fund a sum sufficient
59 to increase the Chief Judge's salary to the level set forth in
60 this subsection (2). No less than One Hundred Five Thousand Fifty
61 Dollars (\$105,050.00) of the salary of an associate judge in this
62 subsection (2) shall be paid from general fund monies; in
63 addition, the Legislature shall appropriate annually from the
64 Judicial System Operation Fund a sum sufficient to increase the
65 salary of an associate judge to the level set forth in this
66 subsection (2).



67 The fixed salaries as specified in this subsection (2) shall
68 be the exclusive and total compensation which can be reported to
69 the Public Employees' Retirement System for retirement purposes;
70 however, any judge in office on December 31, 2003, may continue to
71 report his expense allowance as part of his compensation for
72 retirement purposes.

73 (3) The annual salaries of the chancery and circuit court
74 judges are fixed as follows:

75 * * *

76 **From and after January 1, 2016:**

77 Chancery Judges, each.....\$136,000.00

78 Circuit Judges, each..... 136,000.00

79 In addition to their present official duties, the circuit and
80 chancery judges shall take necessary action to promote judicial
81 education in schools, intervention courts, electronic filing and
82 case management systems as developed by the Administrative Office
83 of Courts, or such other additional duties as may be assigned by
84 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. For such extra services
85 each judge, from and after January 1, 2013, shall receive a sum
86 sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set forth in this
87 subsection (3).

88 The fixed salaries in this subsection (3) shall be paid from
89 the State General Fund and from the Judicial System Operation Fund
90 created under Section 9-21-45. No less than One Hundred Four
91 Thousand One Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$104,170.00) of the salary



92 of a chancery or circuit judge in this subsection (3) shall be
93 paid from general fund monies; in addition, the Legislature shall
94 appropriate annually from the Judicial System Operation Fund a sum
95 sufficient to increase the salary of a chancery or circuit judge
96 to the levels set forth in this subsection (3).

97 (4) From and after January 1, 2019, and every four (4) years
98 thereafter, the annual salaries of the judges in subsections (1),
99 (2) and (3) shall be fixed at the level of compensation
100 recommended by the State Personnel Board according to the board's
101 most recent report on judicial salaries, as required under Section
102 25-9-115, to the extent that sufficient funds are available. The
103 annual salaries fixed in accordance with this subsection (4) shall
104 not become effective until the commencement of the next
105 immediately succeeding term of office.

106 (5) The Supreme Court shall prepare a payroll for chancery
107 judges and circuit judges and submit such payroll to the
108 Department of Finance and Administration.

109 (6) The annual salary of the full-time district attorneys
110 shall be:

111 * * *

112 **From and after January 1, 2016:**

113 * * * One Hundred Thirty-one Thousand Dollars (\$131,000.00)

114 (7) The annual salary of the full-time legal assistants
115 shall be not less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) nor
116 more than eighty percent (80%) of the salary of the district



117 attorney for legal assistants who have been licensed to practice
118 law for five (5) years or less; eighty-five percent (85%) of the
119 salary of the district attorney for legal assistants who have been
120 licensed to practice law for at least five (5) years but less than
121 fifteen (15) years; and ninety percent (90%) of the salary of the
122 district attorney for legal assistants who have been licensed to
123 practice law for at least fifteen (15) years or more.

124 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
125 and after July 1, 2022.

