

By: Representative Hood

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 898

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-13-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE SALARIES FOR CIRCUIT AND CHANCERY COURT REPORTERS;  
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-13-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 9-13-19. (1) Court reporters for circuit and chancery  
8 courts may be paid an annual salary payable by the Administrative  
9 Office of Courts not to exceed \* \* \* Fifty-nine Thousand Five  
10 Hundred Dollars (\$59,500.00) for court reporters with five (5)  
11 years' experience or less; not to exceed \* \* \* Sixty-eight  
12 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$68,500.00) for court reporters who  
13 have more than five (5) years' experience but less than ten (10)  
14 years; and not to exceed \* \* \* Seventy-four Thousand Dollars  
15 (\$74,000.00) for court reporters who have ten (10) years or more  
16 experience. No amount of the increase in the maximum salary  
17 authorized by this section shall be paid from the State General  
18 Fund. The board of supervisors of any county is authorized to pay



19 its court reporters the applicable amount of the maximum salary  
20 authorized by this section. In addition, any court reporter  
21 performing the duties of a court administrator in the same  
22 judicial district in which the person is employed as a court  
23 reporter may be paid additional compensation for performing the  
24 court administrator duties. The annual amount of the additional  
25 compensation shall be set by vote of the judges and chancellors  
26 for whom the court administrator duties are performed, with  
27 consideration given to the number of hours per month devoted by  
28 the court reporter to performing the duties of a court  
29 administrator. The additional compensation shall be submitted to  
30 the Administrative Office of Courts for approval.

31 (2) The several counties in each respective court district  
32 shall transfer from the general funds of those county treasuries  
33 to the Administrative Office of Courts a proportionate amount to  
34 be paid toward the annual compensation of the court reporter,  
35 including any additional compensation paid for the performance of  
36 court administrator duties. The amount to be paid by each county  
37 shall be determined by the number of weeks in which court is held  
38 in each county in proportion to the total number of weeks court is  
39 held in the district. For purposes of this section, the term  
40 "compensation" means the gross salary plus all amounts paid for  
41 benefits, or otherwise, as a result of employment or as required  
42 by employment, but does not include transcript fees otherwise  
43 authorized to be paid by or through the counties. However, only



44 salary earned for services rendered shall be reported and credited  
45 for retirement purposes. Amounts paid for transcript fees,  
46 benefits or otherwise, including reimbursement for travel  
47 expenses, shall not be reported or credited for retirement  
48 purposes.

49 For example, if there are thirty-eight (38) scheduled court  
50 weeks in a particular district, a county in which court is  
51 scheduled five (5) weeks out of the year would have to pay  
52 five-thirty-eighths (5/38) of the total annual compensation.

53 (3) The salary and any additional compensation for the  
54 performance of court administrator duties shall be paid in twelve  
55 (12) installments on the last working day of each month after it  
56 has been duly authorized by the appointing judge or chancellor and  
57 an order duly placed on the minutes of the court. Each county  
58 shall transfer to the Administrative Office of Courts one-twelfth  
59 (1/12) of the amount required to be paid pursuant to subsection  
60 (2) of this section by the twentieth day of each month for the  
61 salary that is to be paid on the last working day of the month.  
62 The Administrative Office of Courts shall pay to the court  
63 reporter the total amount of salary due for that month. Any  
64 county may pay, in the discretion of the board of supervisors, by  
65 the twentieth day of January of any year, the amount due for a  
66 full twelve (12) months.



67 (4) From and after October 1, 1996, all circuit and chancery  
68 court reporters will be employees of the Administrative Office of  
69 Courts.

70 (5) No circuit or chancery court reporter shall be entitled  
71 to any compensation for any special or extended term of court  
72 after passage of this section.

73 (6) No chancery or circuit court reporter shall practice law  
74 in the court within which he or she is the court reporter.

75 (7) For all travel required in the performance of official  
76 duties, the circuit or chancery court reporter shall be paid  
77 mileage by the county in which the duties were performed at the  
78 same rate as provided for state employees in Section 25-3-41. The  
79 court reporter shall file in the office of the clerk of the court  
80 which he serves a certificate of mileage expense incurred during  
81 that term and payment of such expense to the court reporter shall  
82 be paid on allowance by the judge of such court.

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

