

By: Representative Sanford

To: Judiciary B;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1375

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-10, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR FOR THE 13TH  
3 CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-31-10, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 **[Until January 1, 2023, this section shall read as follows:]**

8 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time  
9 criminal investigator.

10 (2) The district attorneys of the Third, Fifth, Ninth,  
11 Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, \* \* \* Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth,  
12 Seventeenth and Twentieth Circuit Court Districts may appoint one  
13 (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for a total of two  
14 (2) full-time criminal investigators.

15 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth,  
16 Seventh, Thirteenth and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may  
17 appoint two (2) additional full-time criminal investigators for a  
18 total of three (3) full-time criminal investigators.



19 (4) No district attorney or assistant district attorney  
20 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any  
21 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

22 (5) The full and complete compensation for all public duties  
23 rendered by said criminal investigators shall be not more than  
24 Fifty-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$59,500.00) per annum,  
25 to be determined at the discretion of the district attorney based  
26 upon the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal  
27 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid  
28 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary  
29 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law  
30 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other  
31 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal  
32 assistant to a district attorney.

33 (6) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the  
34 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training  
35 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of  
36 1972. The total expenses associated with attendance by criminal  
37 investigators at the Law Enforcement Officers Training Program  
38 shall be paid out of the funds of the appropriate district  
39 attorney.

40 (7) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the  
41 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of  
42 funding for such criminal investigators.



43           **[From and after January 1, 2023, this section shall read as**  
44 **follows:]**

45           25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time  
46 criminal investigator.

47           (2) The district attorneys of the Third, Fifth, Ninth,  
48 Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, \* \* \* Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth,  
49 Seventeenth, Twentieth and Twenty-third Circuit Court Districts  
50 may appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for  
51 a total of two (2) full-time criminal investigators.

52           (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth,  
53 Seventh, Thirteenth and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may  
54 appoint two (2) additional full-time criminal investigators for a  
55 total of three (3) full-time criminal investigators.

56           (4) No district attorney or assistant district attorney  
57 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any  
58 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

59           (5) The full and complete compensation for all public duties  
60 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more than  
61 Fifty-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$59,500.00) per annum,  
62 to be determined at the discretion of the district attorney based  
63 upon the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal  
64 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid  
65 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary  
66 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law  
67 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other



68 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal  
69 assistant to a district attorney.

70 (6) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the  
71 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training  
72 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq. The total expenses  
73 associated with attendance by criminal investigators at the Law  
74 Enforcement Officers Training Program shall be paid out of the  
75 funds of the appropriate district attorney.

76 (7) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the  
77 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of  
78 funding for such criminal investigators.

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

