

By: Representatives Read, Shanks, Stamps,
Anthony, Foster

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1423
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL SALARIES OF THE JUSTICES OF
3 THE SUPREME COURT, THE JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, THE
4 CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES, AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS,
5 EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1, 2023; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

9 25-3-35. (1) The annual salaries of the following judges
10 are fixed as follows:

11 * * *

12 **Through December 31, 2022:**

13	<u>Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.....</u>	<u>\$174,000.00</u>
14	<u>Presiding Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....</u>	<u>169,500.00</u>
15	<u>Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....</u>	<u>166,500.00</u>

16 **From and after January 1, 2023:**

17	<u>Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.....</u>	<u>\$181,491.45</u>
18	<u>Presiding Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....</u>	<u>176,737.22</u>
19	<u>Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, each.....</u>	<u>173,800.00</u>



20 There are imposed upon the Supreme Court justices the extra
21 duties of taking all necessary action to promote judicial
22 education in schools, intervention courts, electronic filing and
23 case management systems as developed by the Administrative Office
24 of Courts, or such other additional duties as may be assigned by
25 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. For such extra services
26 each justice, from and after January 1, * * * 2023, shall receive
27 a sum sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set forth
28 in this subsection (1).

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

43 The fixed salaries as specified in this subsection (1) shall
44 be the exclusive and total compensation which can be reported to



45 the Public Employees' Retirement System for retirement purposes;
46 however, any judge in office on December 31, 2003, may continue to
47 report his expense allowance as part of his compensation for
48 retirement purposes.

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

51 * * *

52 **Through December 31, 2022:**

53 Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.....\$161,500.00

54 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each.... 158,500.00

55 **From and after January 1, 2023:**

56 Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.....\$169,349.00

57 Associate Judges of the Court of Appeals, each.... 168,466.71

58 From and after January 1, * * * 2023, each judge shall
59 receive a sum sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set
60 forth in this subsection (2).

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



70 Dollars (\$105,050.00) of the salary of an associate judge in this
71 subsection (2) shall be paid from general fund monies; in
72 addition, the Legislature shall appropriate annually from the
73 Judicial System Operation Fund a sum sufficient to increase the
74 salary of an associate judge to the level set forth in this
75 subsection (2).

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

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

84 * * *

85 **Through December 31, 2022:**

86 Chancery Judges, each.....\$149,000.00

87 Circuit Judges, each..... 149,000.00

88 **From and after January 1, 2023:**

89 Chancery Judges, each.....\$158,000.00

90 Circuit Judges, each..... 158,000.00

91 In addition to their present official duties, the circuit and
92 chancery judges shall take necessary action to promote judicial
93 education in schools, intervention courts, electronic filing and
94 case management systems as developed by the Administrative Office



95 of Courts, or such other additional duties as may be assigned by
96 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. For such extra services
97 each judge, from and after January 1, * * * 2023, shall receive a
98 sum sufficient to aggregate, per annum, the salaries set forth in
99 this subsection (3).

100 The fixed salaries in this subsection (3) shall be paid from
101 the State General Fund and from the Judicial System Operation Fund
102 created under Section 9-21-45. No less than One Hundred Four
103 Thousand One Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$104,170.00) of the salary
104 of a chancery or circuit judge in this subsection (3) shall be
105 paid from general fund monies; in addition, the Legislature shall
106 appropriate annually from the Judicial System Operation Fund a sum
107 sufficient to increase the salary of a chancery or circuit judge
108 to the levels set forth in this subsection (3).

109 (4) From and after January 1, 2019, and every four (4) years
110 thereafter, the annual salaries of the judges in subsections (1),
111 (2) and (3) shall be fixed at the level of compensation
112 recommended by the State Personnel Board according to the board's
113 most recent report on judicial salaries, as required under Section
114 25-9-115, to the extent that sufficient funds are available. The
115 annual salaries fixed in accordance with this subsection (4) shall
116 not become effective until the commencement of the next
117 immediately succeeding term of office.



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

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

123 * * *

124 **From and after January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2022:**

125 One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars
126 (\$125,900.00).

127 **From and after January 1, 2023:**

128 One Hundred Forty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars
129 (\$145,900.00).

130 (7) The annual salary of the full-time legal assistants
131 shall be not less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) nor
132 more than eighty percent (80%) of the salary of the district
133 attorney for legal assistants who have been licensed to practice
134 law for five (5) years or less; eighty-five percent (85%) of the
135 salary of the district attorney for legal assistants who have been
136 licensed to practice law for at least five (5) years but less than
137 fifteen (15) years; and ninety percent (90%) of the salary of the
138 district attorney for legal assistants who have been licensed to
139 practice law for at least fifteen (15) years or more.

140 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
141 and after July 1, 2022, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2022.

