MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION 2022

By: Senator(s) Wiggins

To: Accountability, Efficiency, Transparency; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2086

- AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-10, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE MAXIMUM SALARY PAID TO A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR IN THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY; 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:
- [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, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth,
- 12 Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Twentieth Circuit Court Districts may
- 13 appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal investigator for a
- 14 total of two (2) full-time criminal investigators.
- 15 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth,
- 16 Seventh and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may appoint two (2)
- 17 additional full-time criminal investigators for a total of three
- 18 (3) full-time criminal investigators.

19 (4) No district attorney or	assistant district attorney
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- 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
- 24 than * * * Sixty-seven Thousand Dollars (\$67,000.00) per annum, to
- 25 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.

[From and after January 1, 2023, this section shall read a
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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, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth,
- 49 Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Twentieth and Twenty-third Circuit Court
- 50 Districts may appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal
- 51 investigator for a total of two (2) full-time criminal
- 52 investigators.
- 53 (3) The district attorneys of the First, Second, Fourth,
- 54 Seventh and Nineteenth Circuit Court Districts may appoint two (2)
- 55 additional full-time criminal investigators for a total of three
- 56 (3) full-time criminal investigators.
- 57 (4) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
- 58 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
- 59 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.
- 60 (5) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
- 61 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more
- 62 than * * * Sixty-seven Thousand Dollars (\$67,000.00) per annum, to
- 63 be determined at the discretion of the district attorney based
- 64 upon the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
- 65 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
- 66 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
- 67 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law

- 68 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other
- 69 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
- 70 assistant to a district attorney.
- 71 (6) Any criminal investigator may be designated by the
- 72 district attorney to attend the Law Enforcement Officers Training
- 73 Program set forth in Section 45-6-1 et seq. The total expenses
- 74 associated with attendance by criminal investigators at the Law
- 75 Enforcement Officers Training Program shall be paid out of the
- 76 funds of the appropriate district attorney.
- 77 (7) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
- 78 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of
- 79 funding for such criminal investigators.
- 80 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 81 and after July 1, 2022.