

By: Representative Young

To: Judiciary A;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 150

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT  
3 COURT DISTRICT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 \* \* \*

8 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal  
9 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court  
10 districts:

11 (a) First Circuit Court District.....nine (9)  
12 legal assistants.

13 (b) Second Circuit Court District.....ten (10)  
14 legal assistants.

15 (c) Third Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
16 legal assistants.

17 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....six (6)  
18 legal assistants.



19                   (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
20 legal assistants.  
21                   (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
22 legal assistants.  
23                   (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....eleven (11)  
24 legal assistants.  
25                   (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
26 legal assistants.  
27                   (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
28 legal assistants.  
29                   (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... \* \* \*  
30 five (5) legal assistants.  
31                   (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
32 legal assistants.  
33                   (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
34 legal assistants.  
35                   (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....four (4)  
36 legal assistants.  
37                   (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
38 legal assistants.  
39                   (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....six (6)  
40 legal assistants.  
41                   (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....five (5)  
42 legal assistants.



43                   (q)   Seventeenth Circuit Court District.. three (3)  
44   legal assistants.  
45                   (r)   Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
46   legal assistants.  
47                   (s)   Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....six (6)  
48   legal assistants.  
49                   (t)   Twentieth Circuit Court District.....six (6)  
50   legal assistants.  
51                   (u)   Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
52   legal assistants.  
53                   (v)   Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....three (3)  
54   legal assistants.  
55                   (w)   Twenty-third Circuit Court District .....four (4)  
56   legal assistants.  
57           (2)   In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant  
58   to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of  
59   full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following  
60   circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the  
61   Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe  
62   benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following  
63   circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one  
64   or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a  
65   resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses  
66   and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such  
67   district pursuant to this subsection:



68                   (a) First Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
69 legal assistants.  
70                   (b) Second Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
71 legal assistants.  
72                   (c) Third Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
73 legal assistants.  
74                   (d) Fourth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
75 legal assistants.  
76                   (e) Fifth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
77 legal assistants.  
78                   (f) Sixth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
79 legal assistants.  
80                   (g) Seventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
81 legal assistants.  
82                   (h) Eighth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
83 legal assistants.  
84                   (i) Ninth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
85 legal assistants.  
86                   (j) Tenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
87 legal assistants.  
88                   (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
89 legal assistants.  
90                   (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
91 legal assistants.



92                   (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
93 legal assistants.  
94                   (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
95 legal assistants.  
96                   (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
97 legal assistants.  
98                   (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
99 legal assistants.  
100                  (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
101 legal assistants.  
102                  (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
103 legal assistants.  
104                  (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
105 legal assistants.  
106                  (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
107 legal assistants.  
108                  (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
109 legal assistants.  
110                  (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
111 legal assistants.  
112                  (w) Twenty-third Circuit Court District.....two (2)  
113 legal assistants.  
114                  (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a  
115 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits  
116 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the



circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to this section.

(4) The district attorney of any circuit court district may employ additional legal assistants or criminal investigators, or both, without regard to any limitation on the number of legal assistants authorized in this section or criminal investigators authorized by other provisions of law to the extent that the district attorney's office receives funds from any source. Any source shall include, but is not limited to, office generated funds, funds from a county, a combination of counties, a municipality, a combination of municipalities, federal funds, private grants or foundations, or by means of an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement authorized by Section 17-13-1 which may be expended for those positions in an amount sufficient to pay all of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits of the positions. Such funds may either be paid out of district attorney accounts, transferred by the district attorney to the Department of Finance and Administration or to one or more of the separate counties comprising the circuit court district, and the funds shall be disbursed to such employees in the same manner as state-funded criminal investigators and full-time legal assistants. The district attorney shall report to the board of supervisors of each county comprising the circuit court district the amount and source of the supplemental salary, expenses and fringe benefits, and the board in each county shall spread the



142 same on its minutes. The district attorney shall also report such  
143 information to the Department of Finance and Administration which  
144 shall make such information available to the Legislative Budget  
145 Office.

146 (5) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the  
147 duties of a legal assistant regardless of the source of funding  
148 for such legal assistants.

149 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
150 and after July 1, 2023.

