

By: Senator(s) Parker

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2307

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 EXTEND THE DATE OF REPEAL ON THE PROVISION OF LAW ESTABLISHING THE
3 COMPENSATION OF ELECTED STATE AND DISTRICT OFFICERS; TO BRING
4 FORWARD SECTION 25-3-39, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FOR THE PURPOSE
5 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-3-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 25-3-31. (1) The annual salaries of the following elected
10 state and district officers are fixed as follows:

11	Governor.....	\$ 160,000.00
12	Attorney General.....	150,000.00
13	Secretary of State.....	120,000.00
14	Commissioner of Insurance.....	150,000.00
15	State Treasurer.....	120,000.00
16	State Auditor of Public Accounts.....	150,000.00
17	Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.....	120,000.00
18	Transportation Commissioners.....	95,000.00
19	Public Service Commissioners.....	95,000.00



20 (2) To assist the elected state and district officers in
21 subsection (1) of this section in efficiently performing the
22 official duties imposed upon him or her by law, the officer may
23 employ suitable and competent persons who possess the professional
24 skill and expert knowledge needed to fulfill those duties. The
25 State Personnel Board, based upon its findings of fact, shall
26 exempt those persons from the provisions of Section 25-3-39 when
27 the acquisition of such professional services is precluded based
28 upon the prevailing wage in the relevant labor market. This
29 subsection (2) shall stand repealed on July 1, * * * 2028.

30 **SECTION 2.** Section 25-3-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
31 brought forward as follows:

32 25-3-39. (1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this
33 section, no public officer, public employee, administrator, or
34 executive head of any arm or agency of the state, in the executive
35 branch of government, shall be paid an annual salary greater than
36 one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the salary fixed in
37 Section 25-3-31 for the Governor, nor shall the salary of any
38 public officer, public employee, administrator, or executive head
39 of any arm or agency of the state, in the executive branch of
40 government, be supplemented with any funds from any source,
41 including federal or private funds. Such salaries shall be
42 completely paid by the state. The following shall be exempt from
43 this subsection:



44 (i) Academic officials, members of the teaching
45 staffs and employees of the state institutions of higher learning,
46 the Mississippi Community College Board, and community and junior
47 colleges;

48 (ii) Licensed physicians who are public employees;

49 (iii) Professional employees who hold a bachelor's
50 degree or more advanced degree from an accredited four-year
51 college or university or a certificate or license issued by a
52 state licensing board, commission or agency and who are employed
53 by the Department of Mental Health, if the State Personnel Board
54 approves the exemption;

55 (iv) The Commissioner of Child Protection
56 Services; and

57 (v) The Executive Director of the Public
58 Employees' Retirement System and the Chief Investment Officer of
59 the Public Employees' Retirement System.

60 (b) The Governor shall fix the annual salary of the
61 Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority, the
62 annual salary of the Commissioner of Child Protection Services,
63 and the annual salary of the Chief of Staff of the Governor's
64 office. The salary of the Governor's Chief of Staff shall not be
65 greater than one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the salary
66 of the Governor and shall be completely paid by the state without
67 supplementation from another source. The salary of the Executive
68 Director of the Mississippi Development Authority may be greater



69 than one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the salary of the
70 Governor and may be supplemented with funds from any source,
71 including federal or private funds; however, any state funds used
72 to pay the salary of the Executive Director of the Mississippi
73 Development Authority shall not exceed one hundred twenty-five
74 percent (125%) of the salary of the Governor. If the executive
75 director's salary is supplemented with private funds, the
76 Mississippi Development Authority shall publish on its website the
77 amount of the supplement and the name of the donor of the private
78 funds.

79 (2) No public officer, employee or administrator shall be
80 paid a salary or compensation, directly or indirectly, in excess
81 of the salary authorized to be paid the executive head of the
82 state agency or department in which he is employed. The State
83 Personnel Board, based upon its findings of fact, may exempt
84 physicians and actuaries from this subsection when the acquisition
85 of such professional services is precluded based on the prevailing
86 wage in the relevant labor market.

87 (3) The executive head of any state agency or department
88 appointed by the Governor, in such executive head's discretion,
89 may waive all or any portion of the salary or compensation
90 lawfully established for the position.

91 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
92 and after June 30, 2024.

