

By: Representatives Owen, Horan

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 624

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-10, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF FULL-TIME CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS; AND
3 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 25-31-10. (1) Any district attorney may appoint a full-time
8 criminal investigator.

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

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



18 (4) The district attorney of the Seventh Circuit Court
19 District may appoint one (1) additional full-time criminal
20 investigator for a total of four (4) full-time criminal
21 investigators.

22 (5) No district attorney or assistant district attorney
23 shall accept any private employment, civil or criminal, in any
24 matter investigated by such criminal investigators.

25 (6) The full and complete compensation for all public duties
26 rendered by the criminal investigators shall be not more
27 than * * * Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) per annum,
28 to be determined at the discretion of the district attorney based
29 upon the qualifications, education and experience of the criminal
30 investigator, plus necessary travel and other expenses, to be paid
31 in accordance with Section 25-31-8. However, the maximum salary
32 under this subsection for a criminal investigator who has a law
33 degree may be supplemented by the district attorney from other
34 available funds, but not to exceed the maximum salary for a legal
35 assistant to a district attorney.

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



42 (8) The district attorney shall be authorized to assign the
43 duties of criminal investigators regardless of the source of
44 funding for such criminal investigators.

45 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
46 and after July 1, 2025.

