

By: Barnett (92nd)

To: Judiciary B; County
Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 1535

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 19-25-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE SHERIFF IN EACH COUNTY SHALL REGULARLY EMPLOY
3 A MINIMUM OF FIVE DEPUTIES HAVING LAW ENFORCEMENT DUTIES; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 19-25-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 19-25-21. The sheriff in each county shall regularly employ
9 a minimum of five (5) deputies having law enforcement duties.

10 In those counties comprised of two (2) judicial districts
11 having a total population of thirty-five thousand (35,000) or
12 more, there shall be not less than two (2) deputies in the
13 judicial district in which the sheriff does not reside, one (1) of
14 whom shall be the chief deputy in charge of the office, all of
15 whom shall be subject to the direction of the sheriff. In those
16 counties comprised of two (2) judicial districts having a total
17 population of less than thirty-five thousand (35,000), there shall
18 be at least one (1) deputy in the judicial district in which the
19 sheriff does not reside who shall be subject to the direction of
20 the sheriff.

21 Each deputy sheriff who shall have law enforcement duties
22 shall, at the expense of the county, attend and complete an
23 appropriate curriculum in the field of law enforcement at the
24 Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Academy within one (1) year
25 from the date of his appointment, excluding those who have
26 previously served as sheriff, or have had at least five (5) years'
27 experience as a full-time law enforcement officer, or have

28 previously successfully completed a course of training at the
29 Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Academy or at the Jackson
30 Police Academy. Any deputy sheriff exempted from attendance at
31 the initial course as herein provided because of previous service
32 as sheriff or having five (5) years' full-time law enforcement
33 experience must have served as sheriff or obtained such experience
34 within a period of ten (10) years prior to the date of his taking
35 the oath of office. Any deputy sheriff exempted from attendance
36 because of successful completion of a course of training at either
37 of the aforementioned academies must have completed such course
38 within five (5) years prior to the date of his taking the oath of
39 office. Each deputy sheriff shall thereafter, on a periodic and
40 continuing basis, attend additional advanced courses in law
41 enforcement at said Academy in order that each deputy sheriff will
42 be properly informed and trained in the modern, technical advances
43 in the field of law enforcement.

44 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after July 1, 2000.