

By: Representatives Mayo, Burnett

To: Fees and Salaries of  
Public Officers; County  
Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 922

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF TUNICA COUNTY TO PAY AN  
3 ADDITIONAL \$10,000 IN SALARY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-3-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 25-3-25. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections  
8 (2) through (9), the salaries of sheriffs of the various counties  
9 are hereby fixed as full compensation for their services.

10 From and after October 1, 1998, the annual salary for each  
11 sheriff shall be based upon the total population of his county  
12 according to the latest federal decennial census in the following  
13 categories and for the following amounts; however, no sheriff  
14 shall be paid less than the salary authorized under this section  
15 to be paid the sheriff based upon the population of the county  
16 according to the 1980 federal decennial census:

17 (a) For counties with a total population of more than  
18 two hundred thousand (200,000), a salary of Seventy-five Thousand  
19 Dollars (\$75,000.00).

20 (b) For counties with a total population of more than  
21 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred  
22 thousand (200,000), a salary of Seventy Thousand Dollars  
23 (\$70,000.00).

24 (c) For counties with a total population of more than  
25 forty-five thousand (45,000) and not more than one hundred  
26 thousand (100,000), a salary of Sixty-five Thousand Dollars  
27 (\$65,000.00).

28           (d) For counties with a total population of more than  
29 thirty-four thousand (34,000) and not more than forty-five  
30 thousand (45,000), a salary of Sixty Thousand Dollars  
31 (\$60,000.00).

32           (e) For counties with a total population of more than  
33 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-four  
34 thousand (34,000), a salary of Fifty-two Thousand Dollars  
35 (\$52,000.00).

36           (f) For counties with a total population of more than  
37 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand  
38 (25,000), a salary of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00).

39           (g) For counties with a total population of more than  
40 nine thousand five hundred (9,500) and not more than fifteen  
41 thousand (15,000), a salary of Forty-seven Thousand Dollars  
42 (\$47,000.00).

43           (h) For counties with a total population of more than  
44 seven thousand five hundred (7,500) and not more than nine  
45 thousand five hundred (9,500), a salary of Forty-five Thousand  
46 Dollars (\$45,000.00).

47           (i) For counties with a total population of not more  
48 than seven thousand five hundred (7,500), a salary of Forty-two  
49 Thousand Dollars (\$42,000.00).

50           (2) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
51 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Leflore County may,  
52 in its discretion, pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
53 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
54 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
55 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
56 county for the following reasons:

57           (a) The Mississippi Department of Corrections operates  
58 and maintains a restitution center within the county;

59           (b) The Mississippi Department of Corrections operates  
60 and maintains a community work center within the county;

61 (c) There is a resident circuit court judge in the  
62 county whose office is located at the Leflore County Courthouse;

63 (d) There is a resident chancery court judge in the  
64 county whose office is located at the Leflore County Courthouse;

65 (e) The Magistrate for the Fourth Circuit Court  
66 District is located in the county and maintains his office at the  
67 Leflore County Courthouse;

68 (f) The Region VI Mental Health-Mental Retardation  
69 Center, which serves a multicounty area, calls upon the sheriff to  
70 provide security for out-of-town mental patients, as well as  
71 patients from within the county;

72 (g) The increased activity of the Child Support  
73 Division of the Department of Human Services in enforcing in the  
74 courts parental obligations has imposed additional duties on the  
75 sheriff; and

76 (h) The dispatchers of the enhanced E-911 system in  
77 place in Leflore County has been placed under the direction and  
78 control of the sheriff.

79 (3) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
80 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Rankin County may, in  
81 its discretion, pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
82 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
83 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
84 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
85 county for the following reasons:

86 (a) The Mississippi Department of Corrections operates  
87 and maintains the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility within  
88 the county;

89 (b) The State Hospital is operated and maintained  
90 within the county at Whitfield;

91 (c) Hudspeth Regional Center, a facility maintained for  
92 the care and treatment of the mentally retarded, is located within  
93 the county;

94 (d) The Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training  
95 Academy is operated and maintained within the county;

96 (e) The State Fire Academy is operated and maintained  
97 within the county;

98 (f) The Pearl River Valley Water Supply District,  
99 ordinarily known as the "Reservoir District," is located within  
100 the county;

101 (g) The Jackson International Airport is located within  
102 the county;

103 (h) The patrolling of the state properties located  
104 within the county has imposed additional duties on the sheriff;  
105 and

106 (i) The sheriff, in addition to providing security to  
107 the nearly one hundred thousand (100,000) residents of the county,  
108 has the duty to investigate, solve and assist in the prosecution  
109 of any misdemeanor or felony committed upon any state property  
110 located in Rankin County.

111 (4) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
112 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County shall  
113 pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the county an amount  
114 equal to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

115 (5) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
116 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Tunica County may, in  
117 its discretion, pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
118 county an amount equal to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00),  
119 payable beginning April 1, 1997.

120 (6) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
121 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Hinds County shall  
122 pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the county in an amount  
123 equal to Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00). The Legislature  
124 finds and declares that the annual supplement authorized by this  
125 subsection is justified in such county for the following reasons:

126           (a) Hinds County has the greatest population of any  
127 county, two hundred fifty-four thousand four hundred forty-one  
128 (254,441) by the 1990 census, being almost one hundred thousand  
129 (100,000) more than the next most populous county;

130           (b) Hinds County is home to the State Capitol and the  
131 seat of all state government offices;

132           (c) Hinds County is the third largest county in  
133 geographic area, containing eight hundred seventy-five (875)  
134 square miles;

135           (d) Hinds County is comprised of two (2) judicial  
136 districts, each having a courthouse and county office buildings;

137           (e) There are four (4) resident circuit judges, four  
138 (4) resident chancery judges, and three (3) resident county judges  
139 in Hinds County, the most of any county, with the sheriff acting  
140 as chief executive officer and provider of bailiff services for  
141 all;

142           (f) The main offices for the clerk and most of the  
143 judges and magistrates for the United States District Court for  
144 the Southern District of Mississippi are located within the  
145 county;

146           (g) The state's only urban university, Jackson State  
147 University, is located within the county;

148           (h) The University of Mississippi Medical Center,  
149 combining the medical school, dental school, nursing school and  
150 hospital, is located within the county;

151           (i) Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, the state's  
152 largest sports arena, is located within the county;

153           (j) The Mississippi State Fairgrounds, including the  
154 Coliseum and Trade Mart, are located within the county;

155           (k) Hinds County has the largest criminal population in  
156 the state, such that the Hinds County Sheriff's Department  
157 operates the largest county jail system in the state, housing

158 almost one thousand (1,000) inmates in three (3) separate  
159 detention facilities;

160 (l) The Hinds County Sheriff's Department handles more  
161 mental and drug and alcohol commitments cases than any other  
162 sheriff's department in the state;

163 (m) The Mississippi Department of Corrections maintains  
164 a restitution center within the county;

165 (n) The Mississippi Department of Corrections regularly  
166 houses as many as one hundred (100) state convicts within the  
167 Hinds County jail system; and

168 (o) The Hinds County Sheriff's Department is regularly  
169 asked to provide security services not only at the Fairgrounds and  
170 Memorial Stadium, but also for events at the Mississippi Museum of  
171 Art and Jackson City Auditorium.

172 (7) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
173 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Wilkinson County, in  
174 its discretion, may pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
175 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
176 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
177 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
178 county because the Mississippi Department of Corrections contracts  
179 for the private incarceration of state inmates at a private  
180 correctional facility within the county.

181 (8) In addition to the salary provided for in subsection (1)  
182 of this section, the Board of Supervisors of Marshall County, in  
183 its discretion, may pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
184 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
185 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
186 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
187 county because the Mississippi Department of Corrections contracts  
188 for the private incarceration of state inmates at a private  
189 correctional facility within the county.

190           (9) In addition to the salary provided in subsection (1) of  
191 this section, the Board of Supervisors of Greene County, in its  
192 discretion, may pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
193 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
194 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
195 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
196 county for the following reasons:

197           (a) The Mississippi Department of Corrections operates  
198 and maintains the South Mississippi Correctional Facility within  
199 the county;

200           (b) In 1996, additional facilities to house another one  
201 thousand four hundred sixteen (1,416) male offenders were  
202 constructed at the South Mississippi Correctional Facility within  
203 the county; and

204           (c) The patrolling of the state properties located  
205 within the county has imposed additional duties on the sheriff  
206 justifying additional compensation.

207           (10) The salaries herein provided shall be payable monthly  
208 on the first day of each calendar month by chancery clerk's  
209 warrant drawn on the general fund of the county; however, the  
210 board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and entered on  
211 its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be paid  
212 semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month. If a  
213 pay date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments  
214 shall be made on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or  
215 legal holiday.

216           (11) In addition to the salary provided in subsection (1) of  
217 this section, the Board of Supervisors of Tunica County, in its  
218 discretion, may pay an annual supplement to the sheriff of the  
219 county in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars  
220 (\$10,000.00). The Legislature finds and declares that the annual  
221 supplement authorized by this subsection is justified in such  
222 county for the following reasons:

223           (a) The substantial economic growth relating to the  
224 casino and tourism industry that has developed in Tunica County;  
225 and

226           (b) There are currently nine (9) casinos operating in  
227 Tunica County which employ in excess of fifteen thousand (15,000)  
228 persons and generate over ten million (10,000,000) visitors  
229 annually to the county; and

230           (c) The growth in tourism in the county has resulted in  
231 over 6,000 hotel rooms being constructed in Tunica County which  
232 have an occupancy rate in excess of seventy-five percent (75%);  
233 and

234           (d) The budget of the county's sheriff department has  
235 increased significantly over the past ten (10) years in order to  
236 provide the necessary funding to allow effective and efficient law  
237 enforcement in Tunica County, Mississippi; and

238           (e) The county currently employs in excess of one  
239 hundred thirty (130) persons which include over fifty (50)  
240 deputies; and

241           (f) The duties and responsibilities of the sheriff  
242 relating to providing law enforcement have grown and increased  
243 given the gaming and tourism market that has developed in Tunica  
244 County.

245           **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
246 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
247 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
248 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
249 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
250 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
251 extended.

252           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
253 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting  
254 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.