

By: Representative Watson

To: Judiciary A;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 551

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LEGAL ASSISTANTS TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF  
3 THE TWELFTH CIRCUIT 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 25-31-5. (1) The following number of full-time legal  
8 assistants are authorized in the following circuit court  
9 districts:

10 (a) First Circuit Court District..... seven (7)  
11 legal assistants.

12 (b) Second Circuit Court District..... nine (9)  
13 legal assistants.

14 (c) Third Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
15 legal assistants.

16 (d) Fourth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
17 legal assistants.

18 (e) Fifth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
19 legal assistants.

20 (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
21 legal assistants.

22 (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... nine (9)  
23 legal assistants.

24 (h) Eighth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
25 legal assistants.

26 (i) Ninth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
27 legal assistants.

- 28           (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
29 legal assistants.
- 30           (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
31 legal assistants.
- 32           (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
33 legal assistants.
- 34           (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
35 legal assistants.
- 36           (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... three (3)  
37 legal assistants.
- 38           (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
39 legal assistants.
- 40           (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
41 legal assistants.
- 42           (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... five (5)  
43 legal assistants.
- 44           (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
45 legal assistants.
- 46           (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
47 legal assistants.
- 48           (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... four (4)  
49 legal assistants.
- 50           (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
51 legal assistants.
- 52           (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
53 legal assistants.

54           (2) In addition to any legal assistants authorized pursuant  
55 to subsection (1) of this section, the following number of  
56 full-time legal assistants are authorized (i) in the following  
57 circuit court districts if funds are appropriated by the  
58 Legislature to adequately fund the salaries, expenses and fringe  
59 benefits of such legal assistants, or (ii) in any of the following  
60 circuit court districts in which the board of supervisors of one

61 or more of the counties in a circuit court district adopts a  
62 resolution to pay all of the salaries, supplemental pay, expenses  
63 and fringe benefits of legal assistants authorized in such  
64 district pursuant to this subsection:

65           (a) First Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
66 legal assistants.

67           (b) Second Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
68 legal assistants.

69           (c) Third Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
70 legal assistants.

71           (d) Fourth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
72 legal assistants.

73           (e) Fifth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
74 legal assistants.

75           (f) Sixth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
76 legal assistants.

77           (g) Seventh Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
78 legal assistants.

79           (h) Eighth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
80 legal assistants.

81           (i) Ninth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
82 legal assistants.

83           (j) Tenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
84 legal assistants.

85           (k) Eleventh Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
86 legal assistants.

87           (l) Twelfth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
88 legal assistants.

89           (m) Thirteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
90 legal assistants.

91           (n) Fourteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)  
92 legal assistants.

93           (o) Fifteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

94 legal assistants.

95 (p) Sixteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

96 legal assistants.

97 (q) Seventeenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

98 legal assistants.

99 (r) Eighteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

100 legal assistants.

101 (s) Nineteenth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

102 legal assistants.

103 (t) Twentieth Circuit Court District..... two (2)

104 legal assistants.

105 (u) Twenty-first Circuit Court District..... two (2)

106 legal assistants.

107 (v) Twenty-second Circuit Court District..... two (2)

108 legal assistants.

109 (3) The board of supervisors of any county may pay all or a  
110 part of the salary, supplemental pay, expenses and fringe benefits  
111 of any district attorney or legal assistant authorized in the  
112 circuit court district to which such county belongs pursuant to  
113 this section.

114 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
115 and after July 1, 2005.