

By: Senator(s) Thames

To: Fees, Salaries and  
Administration;  
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2324

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-31-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE OFFICE OPERATING ALLOWANCE PROVIDED FOR DISTRICT  
3 ATTORNEYS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 25-31-8. From and after July 1, 2005, in all circuit court  
8 districts in this state existing now or hereafter created, the  
9 district attorney shall receive from sums appropriated for such  
10 purpose from the General Fund or any special fund of the State of  
11 Mississippi, an office operating allowance for the necessary  
12 expenses of operating the office of the district attorney,  
13 including stenographic help, and other items and expenditures  
14 necessary and incident to the investigation of criminal cases, the  
15 general expenses of the office of the investigation of criminal  
16 cases, the general expenses of the office of the district attorney  
17 for preparing and/or trying felony cases and all other cases  
18 requiring the services of the district attorney, the sum of Fifty  
19 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for each district, and an additional  
20 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each assistant authorized by  
21 Section 25-31-5(1) \* \* \*. All expenditures made from such office  
22 operating allowances shall be upon written requisition of the duly  
23 elected district attorney to the State Auditor, as otherwise  
24 provided by law. The district attorney may delegate to the board  
25 of supervisors of any county in his district the responsibility  
26 and authority to employ and set the salary of not more than one  
27 (1) employee for the office of such district attorney, such salary

28 to be paid as other expenditures are paid from the funds provided  
29 by this section. Such employee shall be deemed to be appointed  
30 and employed by the board of supervisors and the salary shall not  
31 be deemed to be a pecuniary benefit provided by the district  
32 attorney's office.

33 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi  
34 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,  
35 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the  
36 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States  
37 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the  
38 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and  
39 extended.

40 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
41 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting  
42 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended, or July 1, 2005,  
43 whichever occurs later.