

By: Senator(s) Burton, Moran, Simmons  
(13th), Younger, Carter, Jackson (32nd)

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2827  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-1-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE LIMIT ON COMPENSATION OF CHANCERY CLERKS AND CIRCUIT  
3 CLERKS; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-225, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
4 INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY REGISTRARS OF ELECTION; TO  
5 AMEND SECTION 25-3-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE  
6 SALARIES OF COUNTY TAX ASSESSORS AND COLLECTORS; TO AMEND SECTION  
7 25-3-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF  
8 COUNTY SUPERVISORS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
9 1972, TO INCREASE CERTAIN FILING FEES CHARGED BY CHANCERY CLERKS  
10 FOR THE RECORDING OF DOCUMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-13,  
11 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE FEE PAID TO THE CIRCUIT  
12 CLERK FOR EACH DAY'S ATTENDANCE UPON THE CIRCUIT COURT TERM; TO  
13 AMEND SECTION 25-7-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE  
14 FEES CHARGED BY SHERIFFS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-27, MISSISSIPPI  
15 CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE FEES CHARGED BY MARSHALS AND  
16 CONSTABLES; TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-59, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
17 TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS, DEPUTY  
18 MEDICAL EXAMINERS AND DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER INVESTIGATORS; TO  
19 AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE  
20 FEES PAID BY THE COUNTY TO A MEDICAL EXAMINER OR HIS DEPUTY FOR  
21 FILING CERTAIN INVESTIGATION REPORTS, AND TO EXTEND THE DATE OF  
22 REPEAL THEREON; TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ANY  
23 COUNTY TO PAY A MONTHLY OFFICE ALLOWANCE TO THE ATTORNEY EMPLOYED  
24 BY THE BOARD; TO CREATE A COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS COMPENSATION  
25 AND FEES TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE STRUCTURE, AMOUNTS AND SOURCES OF  
26 THE COMPENSATION RECEIVED BY, AND THE FEES CHARGED AND COLLECTED  
27 BY, THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE COUNTIES, AND TO MAKE  
28 RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMPENSATION RECEIVED BY, AND THE  
29 FEES CHARGED AND COLLECTED BY, ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS ON A  
30 LONG-TERM BASIS; TO DIRECT THE TASK FORCE TO MAKE A REPORT OF ITS  
31 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE BY DECEMBER 1,  
32 2019; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE; TO PROVIDE FOR  
33 THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TASK FORCE; TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF  
34 PER DIEM AND EXPENSES FOR ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE; TO



35 PROVIDE THAT IF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL FEES RECEIVED BY THE  
36 OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK OR BY THE OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT CLERK  
37 IN ANY YEAR ARE INSUFFICIENT TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE FOR  
38 THAT YEAR, THE CLERK SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; TO  
39 PROVIDE THAT IF THE BOARD MAKES A FINDING AND ENTERS ON ITS  
40 MINUTES THE FINDING THAT THE FEES RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE  
41 CLERK ARE INSUFFICIENT TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE FOR THAT  
42 YEAR, THEN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY APPROPRIATE FUNDS OF THE  
43 COUNTY TO THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AS NECESSARY TO SUPPLEMENT THE  
44 PAYMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK; AND FOR  
45 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

47 **SECTION 1.** Section 9-1-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
48 amended as follows:

49 9-1-43. (1) After making deductions for employer  
50 contributions paid by the chancery or circuit clerk to the Public  
51 Employees' Retirement System under Sections 25-11-106.1 and  
52 25-11-123(f)(4), employee salaries and related salary expenses,  
53 and expenses allowed as deductions by Schedule C of the Internal  
54 Revenue Code, no office of the chancery clerk or circuit clerk of  
55 any county in the state shall receive fees as compensation for the  
56 chancery clerk's or circuit clerk's services in excess of \* \* \*  
57 Ninety-four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$94,500.00). All such  
58 fees received by the office of chancery or circuit clerks that are  
59 in excess of the salary limitation shall be deposited by such  
60 clerk into the county general fund on or before April 15 for the  
61 preceding calendar year. If the chancery clerk or circuit clerk  
62 serves less than one (1) year, then he shall not receive as  
63 compensation any fees in excess of that portion of the salary  
64 limitation that can be attributed to his time in office on a pro  
65 rata basis. Upon leaving office, income earned by any clerk in



66 his last full year of office but not received until after his last  
67 full year of office shall not be included in determining the  
68 salary limitation of the successor clerk. There shall be exempted  
69 from the provisions of this subsection any monies or commissions  
70 from private or governmental sources which: (a) are to be held by  
71 the chancery or circuit clerk in a trust or custodial capacity as  
72 prescribed in subsections (4) and (5); or (b) are received as  
73 compensation for services performed upon order of a court or board  
74 of supervisors which are not required of the chancery clerk or  
75 circuit clerk by statute.

76 (2) It shall be unlawful for any chancery clerk or circuit  
77 clerk to use fees in excess of \* \* \* Ninety-four Thousand Five  
78 Hundred Dollars (\$94,500.00), to pay the salaries or actual or  
79 necessary expenses of employees who are related to such clerk by  
80 blood or marriage within the first degree of kinship according to  
81 the civil law method of computing kinship as provided in Sections  
82 1-3-71 and 1-3-73. However, the prohibition of this subsection  
83 shall not apply to any individual who was an employee of the  
84 clerk's office prior to the date his or her relative was elected  
85 as chancery or circuit clerk. The spouse and/or any children of  
86 the chancery clerk or circuit clerk employed in the office of the  
87 chancery clerk may be paid a salary; however, the combined annual  
88 salaries of the clerk, spouse and any child of the clerk may not  
89 exceed an amount equal to the salary limitation.



90 (3) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall be liable  
91 on their official bond for the proper deposit and accounting of  
92 all monies received by his office. The State Auditor shall  
93 promulgate uniform accounting methods for the accounting of all  
94 sources of income by the offices of the chancery and circuit  
95 clerk.

96 (4) There is created in the county depository of each county  
97 a clearing account to be designated as the "chancery court clerk  
98 clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all such  
99 monies as the clerk of the chancery court shall receive from any  
100 person complying with any writ of garnishment, attachment,  
101 execution or other like process authorized by law for the  
102 enforcement of child support, spousal support or any other  
103 judgment; (b) any portion of any fees required by law to be  
104 collected in civil cases which are to pay for the service of  
105 process or writs in another county; and (c) any other money as  
106 shall be deposited with the court which by its nature is not, at  
107 the time of its deposit, public monies, but which is to be held by  
108 the court in a trust or custodial capacity in a case or proceeding  
109 before the court. The clerk of the chancery court shall account  
110 for all monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and  
111 shall be authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such  
112 account at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as  
113 shall be proper and in accordance with law.



114           The following monies paid to the chancery clerk shall be  
115 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):  
116 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,  
117 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree  
118 in any civil case in chancery; (b) all fees collected for land  
119 recordings, charters, notary bonds, certification of decrees and  
120 copies of any documents; (c) all land redemption and mineral  
121 documentary stamp commissions; and (d) any other monies or  
122 commissions from private or governmental sources for statutory  
123 functions which are not to be held by the court in a trust  
124 capacity. Such fees as shall exceed the salary limitations shall  
125 be maintained in a bank account in the county depository and  
126 accounted for separately from those monies paid into the chancery  
127 court clerk clearing account.

128           (5) There is created in the county depository in each county  
129 a clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk  
130 civil clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all  
131 such monies and fees as the clerk of the circuit court shall  
132 receive from any person complying with any writ of garnishment,  
133 attachment, execution or any other like process authorized by law  
134 for the enforcement of a judgment; (b) any portion of any fees  
135 required by law or court order to be collected in civil cases;  
136 (c) all fees collected for the issuance of marriage licenses; and  
137 (d) any other money as shall be deposited with the court which by  
138 its nature is not, at the time of its deposit, public monies but



139 which is to be held by the court in a trust or custodial capacity  
140 in a case or proceeding before the court.

141       There is created in the county depository in each county a  
142 clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk  
143 criminal clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a)  
144 all such monies as are received in criminal cases in the circuit  
145 court pursuant to any order requiring payment as restitution to  
146 the victims of criminal offenses; (b) any portion of any fees and  
147 fines required by law or court order to be collected in criminal  
148 cases; and (c) all cash bonds as shall be deposited with the  
149 court. The clerk of the circuit court shall account for all  
150 monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and shall be  
151 authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such account,  
152 at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as shall be  
153 proper and in accordance with law; however, such monies as are  
154 forfeited in criminal cases shall be paid by the clerk of the  
155 circuit court to the clerk of the board of supervisors for deposit  
156 in the general fund of the county.

157       The following monies paid to the circuit clerk shall be  
158 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):  
159 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,  
160 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree  
161 in any civil action in circuit court; (b) copies of any documents;  
162 and (c) any other monies or commissions from private or



163 governmental sources for statutory functions which are not to be  
164 held by the court in a trust capacity.

165 (6) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall establish  
166 and maintain a cash journal for recording cash receipts from  
167 private or government sources for furnishing copies of any papers  
168 of record or on file, or for rendering services as a notary  
169 public, or other fees wherein the total fee for the transaction is  
170 Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or less. The cash journal entry shall  
171 include the date, amount and type of transaction, and the clerk  
172 shall not be required to issue a receipt to the person receiving  
173 such services. The State Auditor shall not take exception to the  
174 furnishing of copies or the rendering of services as a notary by  
175 any clerk free of charge.

176 In any county having two (2) judicial districts, whenever the  
177 chancery clerk serves as deputy to the circuit clerk in one (1)  
178 judicial district and the circuit clerk serves as deputy to the  
179 chancery clerk in the other judicial district, the chancery clerk  
180 may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal  
181 maintained for chancery clerk receipts, for recording the cash  
182 receipts paid to him as deputy circuit clerk, and the circuit  
183 clerk may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal  
184 maintained for circuit clerk receipts, for recording the cash  
185 receipts paid to him as deputy chancery clerk. The cash receipts  
186 collected by the chancery clerk in his capacity as deputy circuit  
187 clerk and the cash receipts collected by the circuit clerk in his



188 capacity as deputy chancery clerk shall be subject to the salary  
189 limitation prescribed under subsection (1).

190 (7) Any clerk who knowingly shall fail to deposit funds or  
191 otherwise violate the provisions of this section shall be guilty  
192 of a misdemeanor in office and, upon conviction thereof, shall be  
193 fined in an amount not to exceed double the amount that he failed  
194 to deposit, or imprisoned for not to exceed six (6) months in the  
195 county jail, or be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

196 **SECTION 2.** Section 23-15-225, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
197 amended as follows:

198 23-15-225. (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such  
199 compensation, payable monthly out of the county treasury, which  
200 the board of supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual  
201 basis in the following amounts:

202 (a) For counties with a total population of more than  
203 two hundred thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \*  
204 Thirty-one Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-five Dollars  
205 (\$31,395.00), but not less than \* \* \* Nine Thousand Six Hundred  
206 Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

207 (b) For counties with a total population of more than  
208 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred  
209 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Twenty-six  
210 Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not  
211 less than \* \* \* Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars  
212 (\$9,660.00).





213 (c) For counties with a total population of more than  
214 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand  
215 (100,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Twenty-four Thousand One  
216 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than \* \* \* Nine  
217 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

218 (d) For counties with a total population of more than  
219 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand  
220 (50,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Twenty-one Thousand Seven  
221 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than \* \* \*  
222 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

223 (e) For counties with a total population of more than  
224 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-five  
225 thousand (35,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Nineteen Thousand  
226 Three Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$19,320.00), but not less than \* \* \*  
227 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

228 (f) For counties with a total population of more than  
229 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand  
230 (25,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Sixteen Thousand Nine  
231 Hundred Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than \* \* \* Nine  
232 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

233 (g) For counties with a total population of more than  
234 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),  
235 an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred  
236 Ninety Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than \* \* \* Eight



237 Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents

238 (\$8,452.50).

239 (h) For counties with a total population of more than  
240 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an  
241 amount not to exceed \* \* \* Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars  
242 (\$12,075.00), but not less than \* \* \* Eight Thousand Four Hundred  
243 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

244 (i) For counties with a total population of not more  
245 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Nine  
246 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less  
247 than \* \* \* Six Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and  
248 Twenty-five Cents (\$6,641.25).

249 (j) For counties having two (2) judicial districts, the  
250 board of supervisors of the county may allow, in addition to the  
251 sums prescribed herein, in its discretion, an amount not to exceed  
252 Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00).

253 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or  
254 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy  
255 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by  
256 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to  
257 the sums prescribed herein.

258 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the  
259 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in  
260 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the  
261 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the



262 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of  
263 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall  
264 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as  
265 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in  
266 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund  
267 of the county.

268 (4) In any case where an amount has been allowed by the  
269 board of supervisors pursuant to this section, such amount shall  
270 not be reduced or terminated during the term for which the  
271 registrar was elected.

272 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other  
273 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as  
274 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of Two  
275 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per year. This payment  
276 shall be for the performance of his or her duties in regard to the  
277 conduct of elections and the performance of his or her other  
278 duties.

279 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other  
280 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as  
281 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a  
282 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of  
283 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in  
284 registration of voters.

285 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional  
286 compensation authorized under this section for services as county



287 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as  
288 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on  
289 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

290 **SECTION 3.** Section 25-3-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
291 amended as follows:

292 25-3-3. (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in  
293 this section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the  
294 county and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced,  
295 the actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified  
296 to the counties by the \* \* \* Department of Revenue under the  
297 provisions of Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual  
298 value of gas as certified by the \* \* \* Department of Revenue under  
299 the provisions of Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

300 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various  
301 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as  
302 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of  
303 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The  
304 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the  
305 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed  
306 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year  
307 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

308 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
309 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary of  
310 Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$70,560.00);



311 ( \* \* \*b) For counties having a total assessed  
312 valuation of at least Two Billion Dollars  
313 (\$2,000,000,000.00) \* \* \* but less than Three Billion Dollars  
314 (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Sixty-seven Thousand Two  
315 Hundred Dollars (\$67,200.00);

316 ( \* \* \*c) For counties having a total assessed  
317 valuation of at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but  
318 less than Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary  
319 of \* \* \* Sixty-four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars  
320 (\$64,575.00);

321 ( \* \* \*d) For counties having a total assessed  
322 valuation of at least Five Hundred Million Dollars  
323 (\$500,000,000.00) but less than One Billion Dollars  
324 (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Sixty-one Thousand Four  
325 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$61,425.00);

326 ( \* \* \*e) For counties having a total assessed  
327 valuation of at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars  
328 (\$250,000,000.00) but less than Five Hundred Million Dollars  
329 (\$500,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Fifty-eight Thousand Eight  
330 Hundred Dollars (\$58,800.00);

331 ( \* \* \*f) For counties having a total assessed  
332 valuation of at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars  
333 (\$150,000,000.00) but less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars  
334 (\$250,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Fifty-six Thousand Seven  
335 Hundred Dollars (\$56,700.00);



336 ( \* \* \*g) For counties having a total assessed  
337 valuation of at least Seventy-five Million Dollars  
338 (\$75,000,000.00) but less than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars  
339 (\$150,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Fifty-five Thousand One  
340 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$55,125.00);

341 \* \* \*

342 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
343 less than \* \* \* Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a  
344 salary of \* \* \* Fifty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars  
345 (\$50,929.00).

346 (3) In addition to all other compensation paid pursuant to  
347 this section, the board of supervisors shall pay to a person  
348 serving as both the tax assessor and tax collector in their county  
349 an additional Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.

350 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax  
351 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in  
352 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a  
353 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

354 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
355 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,  
356 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax  
357 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
358 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid  
359 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)  
360 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor



361 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
362 (\$3,500.00) per year.

363 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
364 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall  
365 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid  
366 additional compensation when there is a contract between the  
367 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor  
368 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,  
369 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax  
370 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional  
371 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or  
372 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the  
373 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

374 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of  
375 educational recognition from the International Association of  
376 Assessing Officers or is a licensed appraiser under Section  
377 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five  
378 Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal  
379 year after completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state  
380 certified Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified  
381 Timberland Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when  
382 any tax assessor holds a valid designation from the International  
383 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping  
384 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or  
385 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an



386 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually  
387 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax  
388 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment  
389 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing  
390 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser  
391 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional  
392 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning  
393 the next fiscal year after completion.

394 (8) The salaries provided for in this section shall be the  
395 total funds paid to the county assessors and tax collectors and  
396 shall be full compensation for their services, with any fees being  
397 paid to the county general fund.

398 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be  
399 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by  
400 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;  
401 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and  
402 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be  
403 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month. If  
404 a pay date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments  
405 shall be made on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or  
406 legal holiday.

407 **SECTION 4.** Section 25-3-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
408 amended as follows:





409           25-3-13. (1) The salaries of the members of the boards of  
410 supervisors of the various counties are fixed as full compensation  
411 for their services.

412           The annual salary of each member of the board of supervisors  
413 shall be based upon the total assessed valuation of his respective  
414 county for the preceding taxable year in the following categories  
415 and for the following amounts:

416                   (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
417 less than Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00), a salary  
418 of \* \* \* Twenty-nine Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Dollars  
419 (\$29,870.00);

420                   (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
421 at least Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00), but less than  
422 Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
423 Thirty-three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars (\$33,269.00);

424                   (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
425 at least Fifty Million Dollars (\$50,000,000.00), but less than  
426 Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
427 Thirty-four Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven Dollars (\$34,711.00);

428                   (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
429 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), but less  
430 than One Hundred Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$125,000,000.00), a  
431 salary of \* \* \* Thirty-five Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-one  
432 Dollars (\$35,741.00);



433 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
434 at least One Hundred Twenty-five Million Dollars  
435 (\$125,000,000.00), but less than Three Hundred Million Dollars  
436 (\$300,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Forty-one Thousand Six  
437 Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$41,612.00);

438 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
439 at least Three Hundred Million Dollars (\$300,000,000.00), but less  
440 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
441 Forty-six Thousand Forty-one Dollars (\$46,041.00);

442 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
443 One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), but less than Two Billion  
444 Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Forty-seven  
445 Thousand Seventy-one Dollars (\$47,071.00);

446 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
447 Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary of \* \* \*  
448 Forty-eight Thousand One Hundred One Dollars (\$48,101.00).

449 (2) The annual salary established for the members of the  
450 board of supervisors shall not be reduced as a result of a  
451 reduction in total assessed valuation.

452 (3) The salary of the members of the board of supervisors  
453 shall not be increased under this section until the board of  
454 supervisors shall have passed a resolution stating the amount of  
455 the increase and spread it on its minutes.

456 **SECTION 5.** Section 25-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
457 amended as follows:



458 25-7-9. (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge  
459 the following fees:

460 (a) For the act of certifying copies of filed  
461 documents, for each complete document.....\$ 1.00

462 (b) \* \* \* Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,  
463 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,  
464 etc., per book and page listed where applicable \* \* \*, each deed  
465 of trust, or any other document, for the first \* \* \* five (5)  
466 pages.....\$ \* \* \* 25.00  
467 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

468 \* \* \*

469 ( \* \* \*c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases,  
470 cancellations, etc., including indexing in general indices; for  
471 the first fifteen (15) pages.....\$ 18.00  
472 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

473 (ii) Sectional index entries per section or  
474 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00

475 (iii) Recording each oil and gas assignment  
476 per assignee per each book and page listed.....\$ 18.00

477 ( \* \* \*d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of  
478 record or on file:

479 If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
480 per page.....\$ .50

481 If performed by any other person,  
482 per page.....\$ .25



483 (ii) Entering marginal notations on  
484 documents of record.....\$ 1.00

485 ( \* \* \*e) For each day's attendance on the board of  
486 supervisors, for himself and one (1) deputy, each.....\$ 20.00

487 ( \* \* \*f) For other services as clerk of the board of  
488 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable  
489 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county  
490 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$3,000.00

491 ( \* \* \*g) For each day's attendance on the chancery  
492 court, to be approved by the chancellor:

493 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and  
494 two (2) deputies, each.....\$ \* \* \* 85.00

495 For the second chancellor sitting,  
496 clerk only.....\$ \* \* \* 85.00

497 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total  
498 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery  
499 court.

500 ( \* \* \*h) On order of the court, clerks and not more  
501 than two (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each  
502 term of court for attendance upon the court to get up records.

503 ( \* \* \*i) For public service not otherwise specifically  
504 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to  
505 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an  
506 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00



507 ( \* \* \*j) For each civil filing, to be deposited into  
508 the Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

509 The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a  
510 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording  
511 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such  
512 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be  
513 demanded before the document is recorded.

514 (2) The following \* \* \* fee shall be a total fee for all  
515 services performed by the clerk with respect to \* \* \* any civil  
516 case filed that includes, but is not limited to, divorce,  
517 alteration of birth or marriage certificate, removal of minority,  
518 guardianship or conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption,  
519 land dispute injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt,  
520 modification, partition suit, or commitment, which shall be  
521 payable upon filing and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the  
522 time of filing. The clerk or his successor in office shall  
523 perform all duties set forth without additional compensation or  
524 fee \* \* \*.....\$ 85.00

525 (3) For every civil case filed:

526 (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of  
527 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established in  
528 Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

529 (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the  
530 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in  
531 Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00



532 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.  
533 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings  
534 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving  
535 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of  
536 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,  
537 at the time of filing.

538 **SECTION 6.** Section 25-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
539 amended as follows:

540 25-7-13. (1) The clerks of the circuit court shall charge  
541 the following fees:

542 (a) Docketing, filing, marking and registering each  
543 complaint, petition and indictment.....\$ 85.00

544 The fee set forth in this paragraph shall be the total fee  
545 for all services performed by the clerk up to and including entry  
546 of judgment with respect to each complaint, petition or  
547 indictment, including all answers, claims, orders, continuances  
548 and other papers filed therein, issuing each writ, summons,  
549 subpoena or other such instruments, swearing witnesses, taking and  
550 recording bonds and pleas, and recording judgments, orders, fiats  
551 and certificates; the fee shall be payable upon filing and shall  
552 accrue to the clerk at the time of collection. The clerk or his  
553 successor in office shall perform all duties set forth above  
554 without additional compensation or fee.

555 (b) Docketing and filing each motion to renew judgment,  
556 notice of renewal of judgment, suggestion for a writ of



557 garnishment, suggestion for a writ of execution and judgment  
558 debtor actions and issuing all process, filing and recording  
559 orders or other papers and swearing witnesses.....\$ 35.00

560 (c) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be  
561 deposited to the credit of the Comprehensive Electronic Court  
562 Systems Fund established in Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

563 (d) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be  
564 deposited to the credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund  
565 established in Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

566 (2) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section,  
567 the clerks of the circuit court shall charge the following fees:

568 (a) Filing and marking each order or other paper and  
569 recording and indexing same.....\$ 2.00

570 (b) Issuing each writ, summons, subpoena, citation,  
571 capias and other such instruments.....\$ 1.00

572 (c) Administering an oath and taking bond.....\$ 2.00

573 (d) Certifying copies of filed documents, for each  
574 complete document.....\$ 1.00

575 (e) Recording orders, fiats, licenses, certificates,  
576 oaths and bonds:

577 First page.....\$ 2.00

578 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

579 (f) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or on  
580 file and entering marginal notations on documents of record:

581 If performed by the clerk or his employee,



582 per page.....\$ 1.00

583 If performed by any other person, per page.....\$ .25

584 (g) Judgment roll entry.....\$ 5.00

585 (h) Taxing cost and certificate.....\$ 1.00

586 (i) For taking and recording application for marriage

587 license, for filing and recording consent of parents when required

588 by law, for filing and recording medical certificate, filing and

589 recording proof of age, recording and issuing license, recording

590 and filing returns.....\$ 20.00

591 The clerk shall deposit Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) of each fee

592 collected for a marriage license in the Victims of Domestic

593 Violence Fund established in Section 93-21-117, on a monthly

594 basis.

595 (j) For certified copy of marriage license and search

596 of record, the same fee charged by the Bureau of Vital Statistics

597 of the State Board of Health.

598 (k) For public service not particularly provided for,

599 the circuit court may allow the clerk, per annum, to be paid by

600 the county on presentation of the circuit court's order, the

601 following amount.....\$5,000.00

602 However, in the counties having two (2) judicial districts,

603 such above allowance shall be made for each judicial district.

604 (l) For drawing jurors and issuing venire, to be paid

605 by the county.....\$ 5.00





606 (m) For each day's attendance upon the circuit court  
607 term, for himself and necessary deputies allowed by the court,  
608 each to be paid by the county.....\$ \* \* \* 75.00

609 (n) Summons, each juror to be paid by the county upon  
610 the allowance of the court.....\$ 1.00

611 (o) For issuing each grand jury subpoena, to be paid by  
612 the county on allowance by the court, not to exceed Twenty-five  
613 Dollars (\$25.00) in any one (1) term of court.....\$ 1.00

614 (p) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the  
615 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

616 (3) On order of the court, clerks and deputies may be  
617 allowed five (5) extra days for attendance upon the court to get  
618 up records.

619 (4) The clerk's fees in state cases where the state fails in  
620 the prosecution, or in cases of felony where the defendant is  
621 convicted and the cost cannot be made out of his estate, in an  
622 amount not to exceed Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) in one (1)  
623 year, shall be paid out of the county treasury on approval of the  
624 circuit court, and the allowance thereof by the board of  
625 supervisors of the county. In counties having two (2) judicial  
626 districts, such allowance shall be made in each judicial district;  
627 however, the maximum thereof shall not exceed Eight Hundred  
628 Dollars (\$800.00). Clerks in the circuit court, in cases where  
629 appeals are taken in criminal cases and no appeal bond is filed,  
630 shall be allowed by the board of supervisors of the county after



631 approval of their accounts by the circuit court, in addition to  
632 the above fees, for making such transcript the rate of Two Dollars  
633 (\$2.00) per page.

634 (5) The clerk of the circuit court may retain as his  
635 commission on all money coming into his hands, by law or order of  
636 the court, a sum to be fixed by the court not exceeding one-half  
637 of one percent (1/2 of 1%) on all such sums.

638 (6) For making final records required by law, including, but  
639 not limited to, circuit and county court minutes, and furnishing  
640 transcripts of records, the circuit clerk shall charge Two Dollars  
641 (\$2.00) per page. The same fees shall be allowed to all officers  
642 for making and certifying copies of records or papers which they  
643 are authorized to copy and certify.

644 (7) The circuit clerk shall prepare an itemized statement of  
645 fees for services performed, cost incurred, or for furnishing  
646 copies of any papers of record or on file, and shall submit the  
647 statement to the parties or, if represented, to their attorneys  
648 within sixty (60) days. A bill for same shall accompany the  
649 statement.

650 **SECTION 7.** Section 25-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
651 amended as follows:

652 25-7-19. (1) The sheriffs of the various counties of the  
653 State of Mississippi shall charge the following fees:

654 (a) A uniform total fee in all criminal and civil cases  
655 for the service or attempted service of any process, summons,



656 warrant, writ or other notice as may be required by law or the  
657 court, each.....\$ \* \* \* 45.00

658 (b) In all cases where there is more than one (1)  
659 defendant residing at the same household, service on each  
660 additional defendant.....\$ 5.00

661 (c) After final judgment has been enrolled, notice of  
662 further proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and  
663 attachment and garnishment proceedings, shall be deemed a new suit  
664 and the sheriff shall be entitled to the  
665 following fee .....\$ \* \* \* 45.00

666 (d) Taking bonds of every kind (for purposes of this  
667 fee multiple bonds for criminal charges arising out of a single  
668 incident or transaction shall be considered a single  
669 bond).....\$ 25.00

670 (e) Attendance in habeas corpus proceeding in vacation,  
671 eminent domain court and commitment cases.....\$ 25.00

672 (f) On all money made by virtue of any decree,  
673 execution or attachment, or other process, the following  
674 commissions, to wit:

675 On the first One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), five  
676 percent (5%),

677 On the second One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), four  
678 percent (4%),

679 On all sums over Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00),  
680 three percent (3%).



681 (g) For all service of all process of every kind and  
682 nature issued from without the county wherein it is to be served,  
683 a fee of.....\$ \* \* \* 45.00

684 In civil cases, all process sent out of the county, where  
685 issued to another county for service, shall be accompanied by a  
686 fee of \* \* \* Forty-five Dollars (\$45.00) to pay the sheriff's fee  
687 for his execution of such process unless the clerk or justice  
688 shall endorse on the process that the party at whose instance it  
689 issued had filed an affidavit of inability to pay costs thereof.  
690 All fees sent and unearned, and the whole of it, shall be unearned  
691 if the writ be not legally and properly executed and returned, and  
692 shall be remitted by the sheriff with the writ at his own expense.

693 (2) (a) The sheriff shall keep a complete account of every  
694 fee of every nature, commission or charge collected by him, and  
695 shall file an itemized statement thereof monthly, under oath, with  
696 the clerk of the board of supervisors of his county who shall  
697 preserve same as a part of the records of his office, and he shall  
698 make a remittance to the clerk of the board of supervisors of his  
699 county on or before the fifteenth of each month for deposit into  
700 the general fund of the county of all said fees, commissions and  
701 charges collected during the preceding month. A fee for attempted  
702 service of process is unearned absent two (2) documented actual  
703 attempts to serve the process.

704 (b) At least Ten Dollars (\$10.00) from each fee  
705 collected and deposited into the county's general fund under the



706 provisions of paragraphs (a), (c) and (g) of subsection (1) of  
707 this section shall be used for the sheriffs' salaries authorized  
708 in Section 25-3-25, as such Ten Dollar (\$10.00) amount was  
709 authorized during the 2007 Regular Session in Chapter 331, Laws of  
710 2007, for the purpose of providing additional monies to the  
711 counties for sheriffs' salaries.

712 (3) Any sheriff who shall knowingly fail to collect any fee  
713 established by law which was in fact collectible by him or having  
714 collected the fee shall fail to keep account of such fee or fail  
715 to deposit the fee with the clerk of the board of supervisors as  
716 provided by subsection (2), or such other person or office  
717 entitled thereto, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in office and,  
718 upon conviction therefor, shall be fined in an amount not to  
719 exceed double the amount he failed to collect or pay over, or  
720 imprisoned for not to exceed six (6) months in the county jail, or  
721 be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

722 This provision shall in no way lessen the sheriff's civil  
723 liability on his bond, but shall be an additional penalty for  
724 misfeasance or nonfeasance in office.

725 **SECTION 8.** Section 25-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
726 amended as follows:

727 25-7-27. (1) Marshals and constables shall charge the  
728 following fees:

729 (a) (i) \* \* \* In all civil and criminal cases, \* \* \*  
730 for each service of process, summons, warrant, writ or



731 other notice..... \* \* \* 45.00

732 \* \* \*

733 ( \* \* \* ii) In all cases where there is more than  
734 one (1) defendant residing at the same household, for service on  
735 each additional defendant.....\$ 5.00

736 (iii) For service of each process of every kind  
737 and nature issued from outside the county where it is to be  
738 served, the fees provided in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of this  
739 paragraph, as applicable, shall be assessed.

740 (iv) When a complaining party has provided  
741 erroneous information to the clerk of the court relating to the  
742 service of process on the defendant or defendants and process  
743 cannot be served after diligent search and inquiry on oath thereof  
744 of the marshal or constable, as the case may be, charged with  
745 serving such process, the \* \* \* fees provided in subparagraphs (i)  
746 and (ii) of this paragraph, as applicable, shall be  
747 assessed \* \* \*.

748 (v) When \* \* \* process has been attempted in one  
749 (1) county but the defendant is not found, and process must be  
750 served on that defendant in another county, the clerk shall notify  
751 the complaining party that an additional fee or fees must be paid  
752 before the process can be delivered to the other county.

753 (b) After final judgment has been enrolled, further  
754 proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and  
755 attachment and garnishment proceedings shall be a new suit for



756 which the marshal or constable shall be entitled to the following  
757 fee.....\$ \* \* \* 45.00

758 (c) For conveying a person charged with a crime to  
759 jail, mileage reimbursement in an amount not to exceed the rate  
760 established under Section 25-3-41(2).

761 To be paid out of the county treasury on the allowance of the  
762 board of supervisors, when the state fails in the prosecution, or  
763 the person is convicted but is not able to pay the costs.

764 (d) For other service, the same fees allowed sheriffs  
765 for similar services.

766 (e) For service as a bailiff in any court in a civil  
767 case, to be paid by the county on allowance of the court on  
768 issuance of a warrant therefor, an amount equal to the \* \* \*  
769 amount provided under Section \* \* \* 19-25-31 for each day, or part  
770 thereof, for which he serves as bailiff when the court is in  
771 session.

772 (f) For serving all warrants and other process and  
773 attending all trials in state cases in which the state fails in  
774 the prosecution, to be paid out of the county treasury on the  
775 allowance of the board of supervisors without itemization,  
776 subject, however, to the condition that the marshal or constable  
777 must not have overcharged in the collection of fees for costs,  
778 contrary to the provisions of this section,  
779 annually .....\$ \* \* \* 2,500.00



780           (2) Marshals and constables shall be paid all uncollected  
781 fees levied under subsection (1) of this section in full from the  
782 first proceeds received by the court from the guilty party or from  
783 any other source of payment in connection with the case.

784           (3) In addition to the fees authorized to be paid to a  
785 constable under subsection (1) of this section, a constable may  
786 receive payments for collecting delinquent criminal fines in  
787 justice court pursuant to the provisions of Section 19-3-41(3).

788           **SECTION 9.** Section 41-61-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
789 amended as follows:

790           41-61-59. (1) A person's death that affects the public  
791 interest as specified in subsection (2) of this section shall be  
792 promptly reported to the medical examiner by the physician in  
793 attendance, any hospital employee, any law enforcement officer  
794 having knowledge of the death, the embalmer or other funeral home  
795 employee, any emergency medical technician, any relative or any  
796 other person present. The appropriate medical examiner shall  
797 notify the municipal or state law enforcement agency or sheriff  
798 and take charge of the body. When the medical examiner has  
799 received notification under Section 41-39-15(6) that the deceased  
800 is medically suitable to be an organ and/or tissue donor, the  
801 medical examiner's authority over the body shall be subject to the  
802 provisions of Section 41-39-15(6). The appropriate medical  
803 examiner shall notify the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics within





804 twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the body in cases of death as  
805 described in subsection (2) (m) or (n) of this section.

806 (2) A death affecting the public interest includes, but is  
807 not limited to, any of the following:

808 (a) Violent death, including homicidal, suicidal or  
809 accidental death.

810 (b) Death caused by thermal, chemical, electrical or  
811 radiation injury.

812 (c) Death caused by criminal abortion, including  
813 self-induced abortion, or abortion related to or by sexual abuse.

814 (d) Death related to disease thought to be virulent or  
815 contagious that may constitute a public hazard.

816 (e) Death that has occurred unexpectedly or from an  
817 unexplained cause.

818 (f) Death of a person confined in a prison, jail or  
819 correctional institution.

820 (g) Death of a person where a physician was not in  
821 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding death, or in  
822 prediagnosed terminal or bedfast cases, within thirty (30) days  
823 preceding death.

824 (h) Death of a person where the body is not claimed by  
825 a relative or a friend.

826 (i) Death of a person where the identity of the  
827 deceased is unknown.



828           (j) Death of a child under the age of two (2) years  
829 where death results from an unknown cause or where the  
830 circumstances surrounding the death indicate that sudden infant  
831 death syndrome may be the cause of death.

832           (k) Where a body is brought into this state for  
833 disposal and there is reason to believe either that the death was  
834 not investigated properly or that there is not an adequate  
835 certificate of death.

836           (l) Where a person is presented to a hospital emergency  
837 room unconscious and/or unresponsive, with cardiopulmonary  
838 resuscitative measures being performed, and dies within  
839 twenty-four (24) hours of admission without regaining  
840 consciousness or responsiveness, unless a physician was in  
841 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding presentation to  
842 the hospital, or in cases in which the decedent had a prediagnosed  
843 terminal or bedfast condition, unless a physician was in  
844 attendance within thirty (30) days preceding presentation to the  
845 hospital.

846           (m) Death that is caused by drug overdose or which is  
847 believed to be caused by drug overdose.

848           (n) When a stillborn fetus is delivered and the cause  
849 of the demise is medically believed to be from the use by the  
850 mother of any controlled substance as defined in Section  
851 41-29-105.



852 (3) The State Medical Examiner is empowered to investigate  
853 deaths, under the authority hereinafter conferred, in any and all  
854 political subdivisions of the state. The county medical examiners  
855 and county medical examiner investigators, while appointed for a  
856 specific county, may serve other counties on a regular basis with  
857 written authorization by the State Medical Examiner, or may serve  
858 other counties on an as-needed basis upon the request of the  
859 ranking officer of the investigating law enforcement agency. If a  
860 death affecting the public interest takes place in a county other  
861 than the one where injuries or other substantial causal factors  
862 leading to the death have occurred, jurisdiction for investigation  
863 of the death may be transferred, by mutual agreement of the  
864 respective medical examiners of the counties involved, to the  
865 county where the injuries or other substantial causal factors  
866 occurred, and the costs of autopsy or other studies necessary to  
867 the further investigation of the death shall be borne by the  
868 county assuming jurisdiction.

869 (4) The chief county medical examiner or chief county  
870 medical examiner investigator may receive from the county in which  
871 he serves a salary of \* \* \* One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars  
872 (\$1,250.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in  
873 Sections 41-61-69 and 41-61-75, provided that no county shall pay  
874 the chief county medical examiner or chief county medical examiner  
875 investigator less than \* \* \* Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per  
876 month as a salary, in addition to other compensation provided by



877 law. In any county having one or more deputy medical examiners or  
878 deputy medical examiner investigators, each deputy may receive  
879 from the county in which he serves, in the discretion of the board  
880 of supervisors, a salary of not more than Nine Hundred Dollars  
881 (\$900.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in Sections  
882 41-61-69 and 41-61-75; however, no county shall pay the deputy  
883 medical examiners or deputy medical examiner investigators less  
884 than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per month as a salary in  
885 addition to other compensation provided by law. For this salary  
886 the chief shall assure twenty-four-hour daily and readily  
887 available death investigators for the county, and shall maintain  
888 copies of all medical examiner death investigations for the county  
889 for at least the previous five (5) years. He shall coordinate his  
890 office and duties and cooperate with the State Medical Examiner,  
891 and the State Medical Examiner shall cooperate with him.

892 **SECTION 10.** Section 41-61-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
893 amended as follows:

894 41-61-75. (1) For each investigation with the preparation  
895 and submission of the required reports, the following fees shall  
896 be billed to and paid by the county for which the service is  
897 provided:

898 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall  
899 receive \* \* \* One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00) for each  
900 completed report of investigation of death, plus the examiner's  
901 actual expenses. In addition to that fee, in cases where the



902 cause of death was sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the  
903 medical examiner provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report,  
904 the medical examiner shall receive for completing that report an  
905 additional Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred  
906 Dollars (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced  
907 training in child death investigations and presents to the county  
908 a certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State  
909 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and  
910 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene  
911 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical  
912 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

913 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in  
914 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
915 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site  
916 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket  
917 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred  
918 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

919 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is  
920 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,  
921 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert  
922 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to  
923 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid  
924 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

925 (3) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, \* \* \* 2021.



926           **SECTION 11.** The board of supervisors of any county in the  
927 state is authorized, in its discretion, to pay a monthly office  
928 allowance to the attorney employed by the board in an amount not  
929 exceeding the amount authorized to be paid for secretarial  
930 services for the county prosecuting attorney under Section  
931 19-23-19.

932           **SECTION 12.** (1) There is created a County Elected Officials  
933 Compensation and Fees Task Force to study the structure, amounts  
934 and sources of the compensation received by, and the fees charged  
935 and collected by, the elected officials of the counties, and to  
936 make recommendations to address the compensation received by, and  
937 the fees charged and collected by, elected county officials on a  
938 long-term basis.

939           (2) The task force shall make a report of its findings and  
940 recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2019, including  
941 any recommended legislation.

942           (3) The task force shall be composed of fourteen (14)  
943 members, as follows:

944           (a) A representative of the Mississippi Association of  
945 Supervisors, designated by the association;

946           (b) A representative of the Mississippi Chancery Clerks  
947 Association, designated by the association;

948           (c) A representative of the Mississippi Circuit Clerks  
949 Association, designated by the association;



950 (d) A representative of the Mississippi Assessors and  
951 Collectors Association, designated by the association;

952 (e) A representative of the Mississippi Coroner and  
953 Medical Examiners Association, designated by the association;

954 (f) A representative of the Mississippi Constables  
955 Association, designated by the association;

956 (g) A representative of the Mississippi Sheriffs'  
957 Association, designated by the association;

958 (h) A representative of the Mississippi Justice Court  
959 Judges Association, designated by the association;

960 (i) Three (3) members of the House of Representatives  
961 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

962 (j) Three (3) members of the Senate appointed by the  
963 Lieutenant Governor.

964 (4) Legislative appointments shall be made within thirty  
965 (30) days after the effective date of this section. Within  
966 fifteen (15) days thereafter on a day to be designated jointly by  
967 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Lieutenant  
968 Governor, the task force shall meet and organize by selecting from  
969 its membership a chair and a vice chair. The vice chair shall  
970 also serve as secretary and shall be responsible for keeping all  
971 records of the task force. A majority of the members of the task  
972 force shall constitute a quorum. In the selection of its officers  
973 and the adoption of rules, resolutions and reports, an affirmative  
974 vote of a majority of the task force shall be required. All



975 members shall be notified in writing of all meetings, and those  
976 notices shall be mailed at least fifteen (15) days before the date  
977 on which a meeting is to be held.

978 (5) The members of the task force who are not legislators  
979 shall be compensated at the per diem rate authorized by Section  
980 25-3-69 and shall be reimbursed in accordance with Section 25-3-41  
981 for mileage and actual expenses incurred in the performance of  
982 their duties. Legislative members of the task force shall be paid  
983 from the contingent expense funds of their respective houses in  
984 the same manner as provided for committee meetings when the  
985 Legislature is not in session. However, no per diem or expenses  
986 for attending meetings of the task force will be paid to  
987 legislative members of the task force while the Legislature is in  
988 session. No task force members may incur per diem, travel or  
989 other expense unless previously authorized by vote, at a meeting  
990 of the task force, which action shall be recorded in the official  
991 minutes of the meeting. The nonlegislative members shall be paid  
992 from any funds made available to the task force for that purpose.

993 **SECTION 13.** If the total amount of all fees received by the  
994 office of the chancery clerk or by the office of the circuit clerk  
995 in any year are insufficient to pay the expenses of the office for  
996 that year, the clerk shall notify the board of supervisors, and if  
997 the board of supervisors makes a finding and enters on its minutes  
998 the finding that the fees received by the office of the clerk are  
999 insufficient to pay the expenses of the office for that year, then





1000 the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may appropriate funds  
1001 from the general fund of the county to the office of the clerk as  
1002 necessary to supplement the payment of the expenses of the office  
1003 of the clerk.

1004       **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
1005 and after January 1, 2020, except for Section 11, which shall take  
1006 effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2019, and Sections  
1007 12 and 13, which shall take effect and be in force from and after  
1008 the passage of this act.

