

By: Representatives Barton, Anthony

To: County Affairs;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 719  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-1-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCREASE THE LIMIT ON THE COMPENSATION OF CHANCERY CLERKS AND  
3 CIRCUIT CLERKS; TO AMEND SECTION 23-15-225, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
4 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF CIRCUIT CLERKS FOR  
5 CONDUCTING ELECTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-3-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
6 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY TAX ASSESSORS AND  
7 COLLECTORS; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
8 PROVIDE THAT CHANCERY CLERKS SHALL RECEIVE A CERTAIN ANNUAL SUM  
9 FOR ATTENDING THE MEETINGS OF BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS; TO BRING  
10 FORWARD SECTION 25-7-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PERTAINS  
11 TO THE FEES PAID TO THE CIRCUIT CLERK FOR EACH DAY'S ATTENDANCE  
12 UPON THE CIRCUIT COURT TERM, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT;  
13 TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 25-7-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH  
14 PERTAINS TO FEES CHARGED BY SHERIFFS, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE  
15 AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
16 INCREASE CERTAIN FEES CHARGED BY MARSHALS AND CONSTABLES; TO BRING  
17 FORWARD SECTION 41-61-59, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PERTAINS  
18 TO THE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS, DEPUTY MEDICAL  
19 EXAMINERS AND DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER INVESTIGATORS, FOR PURPOSES  
20 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE  
21 OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION THAT COUNTY MEDICAL  
22 EXAMINERS RECEIVE FOR EACH COMPLETED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF  
23 DEATH; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

27 9-1-43. (1) After making deductions for employer  
28 contributions paid by the chancery or circuit clerk to the Public



29 Employees' Retirement System under Sections 25-11-106.1 and  
30 25-11-123(f) (4), employee salaries and related salary expenses,  
31 and expenses allowed as deductions by Schedule C of the Internal  
32 Revenue Code, no office of the chancery clerk or circuit clerk of  
33 any county in the state shall receive fees as compensation for the  
34 chancery clerk's or circuit clerk's services in excess of \* \* \*  
35 Ninety-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$99,500.00). All such  
36 fees received by the office of chancery or circuit clerks that are  
37 in excess of the salary limitation shall be deposited by such  
38 clerk into the county general fund on or before April 15 for the  
39 preceding calendar year. If the chancery clerk or circuit clerk  
40 serves less than one (1) year, then he shall not receive as  
41 compensation any fees in excess of that portion of the salary  
42 limitation that can be attributed to his time in office on a pro  
43 rata basis. Upon leaving office, income earned by any clerk in  
44 his last full year of office but not received until after his last  
45 full year of office shall not be included in determining the  
46 salary limitation of the successor clerk. There shall be exempted  
47 from the provisions of this subsection any monies or commissions  
48 from private or governmental sources which: (a) are to be held by  
49 the chancery or circuit clerk in a trust or custodial capacity as  
50 prescribed in subsections (4) and (5); or (b) are received as  
51 compensation for services performed upon order of a court or board  
52 of supervisors which are not required of the chancery clerk or  
53 circuit clerk by statute.



54 (2) It shall be unlawful for any chancery clerk or circuit  
55 clerk to use fees in excess of \* \* \* Ninety-nine Thousand Five  
56 Hundred Dollars (\$99,500.00), to pay the salaries or actual or  
57 necessary expenses of employees who are related to such clerk by  
58 blood or marriage within the first degree of kinship according to  
59 the civil law method of computing kinship as provided in Sections  
60 1-3-71 and 1-3-73. However, the prohibition of this subsection  
61 shall not apply to any individual who was an employee of the  
62 clerk's office prior to the date his or her relative was elected  
63 as chancery or circuit clerk. The spouse and/or any children of  
64 the chancery clerk or circuit clerk employed in the office of the  
65 chancery clerk may be paid a salary; however, the combined annual  
66 salaries of the clerk, spouse and any child of the clerk may not  
67 exceed an amount equal to the salary limitation.

68 (3) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall be liable  
69 on their official bond for the proper deposit and accounting of  
70 all monies received by his office. The State Auditor shall  
71 promulgate uniform accounting methods for the accounting of all  
72 sources of income by the offices of the chancery and circuit  
73 clerk.

74 (4) There is created in the county depository of each county  
75 a clearing account to be designated as the "chancery court clerk  
76 clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all such  
77 monies as the clerk of the chancery court shall receive from any  
78 person complying with any writ of garnishment, attachment,



79 execution or other like process authorized by law for the  
80 enforcement of child support, spousal support or any other  
81 judgment; (b) any portion of any fees required by law to be  
82 collected in civil cases which are to pay for the service of  
83 process or writs in another county; and (c) any other money as  
84 shall be deposited with the court which by its nature is not, at  
85 the time of its deposit, public monies, but which is to be held by  
86 the court in a trust or custodial capacity in a case or proceeding  
87 before the court. The clerk of the chancery court shall account  
88 for all monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and  
89 shall be authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such  
90 account at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as  
91 shall be proper and in accordance with law.

92 The following monies paid to the chancery clerk shall be  
93 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):

94 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,  
95 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree  
96 in any civil case in chancery; (b) all fees collected for land  
97 recordings, charters, notary bonds, certification of decrees and  
98 copies of any documents; (c) all land redemption and mineral  
99 documentary stamp commissions; and (d) any other monies or  
100 commissions from private or governmental sources for statutory  
101 functions which are not to be held by the court in a trust  
102 capacity. Such fees as shall exceed the salary limitations shall  
103 be maintained in a bank account in the county depository and



104 accounted for separately from those monies paid into the chancery  
105 court clerk clearing account.

106 (5) There is created in the county depository in each county  
107 a clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk  
108 civil clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a) all  
109 such monies and fees as the clerk of the circuit court shall  
110 receive from any person complying with any writ of garnishment,  
111 attachment, execution or any other like process authorized by law  
112 for the enforcement of a judgment; (b) any portion of any fees  
113 required by law or court order to be collected in civil cases;  
114 (c) all fees collected for the issuance of marriage licenses; and  
115 (d) any other money as shall be deposited with the court which by  
116 its nature is not, at the time of its deposit, public monies but  
117 which is to be held by the court in a trust or custodial capacity  
118 in a case or proceeding before the court.

119 There is created in the county depository in each county a  
120 clearing account to be designated as the "circuit court clerk  
121 criminal clearing account," into which shall be deposited: (a)  
122 all such monies as are received in criminal cases in the circuit  
123 court pursuant to any order requiring payment as restitution to  
124 the victims of criminal offenses; (b) any portion of any fees and  
125 fines required by law or court order to be collected in criminal  
126 cases; and (c) all cash bonds as shall be deposited with the  
127 court. The clerk of the circuit court shall account for all  
128 monies deposited in and disbursed from such account and shall be



129 authorized and empowered to draw and issue checks on such account,  
130 at such times, in such amounts and to such persons as shall be  
131 proper and in accordance with law; however, such monies as are  
132 forfeited in criminal cases shall be paid by the clerk of the  
133 circuit court to the clerk of the board of supervisors for deposit  
134 in the general fund of the county.

135         The following monies paid to the circuit clerk shall be  
136 subject to the salary limitation prescribed under subsection (1):  
137 (a) all fees required by law to be collected for the filing,  
138 recording or abstracting of any bill, petition, pleading or decree  
139 in any civil action in circuit court; (b) copies of any documents;  
140 and (c) any other monies or commissions from private or  
141 governmental sources for statutory functions which are not to be  
142 held by the court in a trust capacity.

143         (6) The chancery clerk and the circuit clerk shall establish  
144 and maintain a cash journal for recording cash receipts from  
145 private or government sources for furnishing copies of any papers  
146 of record or on file, or for rendering services as a notary  
147 public, or other fees wherein the total fee for the transaction is  
148 Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or less. The cash journal entry shall  
149 include the date, amount and type of transaction, and the clerk  
150 shall not be required to issue a receipt to the person receiving  
151 such services. The State Auditor shall not take exception to the  
152 furnishing of copies or the rendering of services as a notary by  
153 any clerk free of charge.



154 In any county having two (2) judicial districts, whenever the  
155 chancery clerk serves as deputy to the circuit clerk in one (1)  
156 judicial district and the circuit clerk serves as deputy to the  
157 chancery clerk in the other judicial district, the chancery clerk  
158 may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal  
159 maintained for chancery clerk receipts, for recording the cash  
160 receipts paid to him as deputy circuit clerk, and the circuit  
161 clerk may maintain a cash journal, separate from the cash journal  
162 maintained for circuit clerk receipts, for recording the cash  
163 receipts paid to him as deputy chancery clerk. The cash receipts  
164 collected by the chancery clerk in his capacity as deputy circuit  
165 clerk and the cash receipts collected by the circuit clerk in his  
166 capacity as deputy chancery clerk shall be subject to the salary  
167 limitation prescribed under subsection (1).

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

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

176 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**  
177 **follows:]**



178           23-15-225. (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such  
179 compensation, payable monthly out of the county treasury, which  
180 the board of supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual  
181 basis in the following amounts:

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

186           (b) For counties with a total population of more than  
187 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred  
188 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand  
189 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than  
190 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

191           (c) For counties with a total population of more than  
192 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand  
193 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One  
194 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine  
195 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

196           (d) For counties with a total population of more than  
197 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand  
198 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven  
199 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine  
200 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

201           (e) For counties with a total population of more than  
202 twenty-five thousand (25,000) and not more than thirty-five





203 thousand (35,000), an amount not to exceed Nineteen Thousand Three  
204 Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$19,320.00), but not less than Nine  
205 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

206 (f) For counties with a total population of more than  
207 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand  
208 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred  
209 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six  
210 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

211 (g) For counties with a total population of more than  
212 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),  
213 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety  
214 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four  
215 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

216 (h) For counties with a total population of more than  
217 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an  
218 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars  
219 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred  
220 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

221 (i) For counties with a total population of not more  
222 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand  
223 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six  
224 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents  
225 (\$6,641.25).

226 (j) For counties having two (2) judicial districts, the  
227 board of supervisors of the county may allow, in addition to the



228 sums prescribed herein, in its discretion, an amount not to exceed  
229 Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00).

230 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or  
231 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy  
232 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by  
233 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to  
234 the sums prescribed herein.

235 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the  
236 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in  
237 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the  
238 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the  
239 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of  
240 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall  
241 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as  
242 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in  
243 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund  
244 of the county.

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

249 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other  
250 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as  
251 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of Two  
252 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per year. This payment



253 shall be for the performance of his or her duties in regard to the  
254 conduct of elections and the performance of his or her other  
255 duties.

256 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other  
257 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as  
258 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a  
259 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of  
260 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in  
261 registration of voters.

262 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional  
263 compensation authorized under this section for services as county  
264 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as  
265 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on  
266 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

267 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**  
268 **follows:]**

269 (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such compensation,  
270 payable monthly out of the county treasury, which the board of  
271 supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual basis in the  
272 following amounts:

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



277 (b) For counties with a total population of more than  
278 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred  
279 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand  
280 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than  
281 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

282 (c) For counties with a total population of more than  
283 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand  
284 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One  
285 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine  
286 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

287 (d) For counties with a total population of more than  
288 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand  
289 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven  
290 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine  
291 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

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

297 (f) For counties with a total population of more than  
298 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand  
299 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred  
300 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six  
301 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).



302 (g) For counties with a total population of more than  
303 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),  
304 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety  
305 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four  
306 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

307 (h) For counties with a total population of more than  
308 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an  
309 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars  
310 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred  
311 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

312 (i) For counties with a total population of not more  
313 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand  
314 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six  
315 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents  
316 (\$6,641.25).

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

321 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or  
322 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy  
323 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by  
324 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to  
325 the sums prescribed herein.



326 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the  
327 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in  
328 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the  
329 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the  
330 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of  
331 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall  
332 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as  
333 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in  
334 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund  
335 of the county.

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

340 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other  
341 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as  
342 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of \* \* \*  
343 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year. This payment shall be  
344 for the performance of his or her duties in regard to the conduct  
345 of elections and the performance of his or her other duties.

346 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other  
347 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as  
348 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a  
349 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of



350 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in  
351 registration of voters.

352 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional  
353 compensation authorized under this section for services as county  
354 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as  
355 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on  
356 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

357 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**  
358 **follows:]**

359 (1) The registrar shall be entitled to such compensation,  
360 payable monthly out of the county treasury, which the board of  
361 supervisors of the county shall allow on an annual basis in the  
362 following amounts:

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

367 (b) For counties with a total population of more than  
368 one hundred thousand (100,000) and not more than two hundred  
369 thousand (200,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-six Thousand  
370 Five Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$26,565.00), but not less than  
371 Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

372 (c) For counties with a total population of more than  
373 fifty thousand (50,000) and not more than one hundred thousand  
374 (100,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-four Thousand One



375 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$24,150.00), but not less than Nine  
376 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

377 (d) For counties with a total population of more than  
378 thirty-five thousand (35,000) and not more than fifty thousand  
379 (50,000), an amount not to exceed Twenty-one Thousand Seven  
380 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$21,735.00), but not less than Nine  
381 Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

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

387 (f) For counties with a total population of more than  
388 fifteen thousand (15,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand  
389 (25,000), an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred  
390 Five Dollars (\$16,905.00), but not less than Nine Thousand Six  
391 Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00).

392 (g) For counties with a total population of more than  
393 ten thousand (10,000) and not more than fifteen thousand (15,000),  
394 an amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety  
395 Dollars (\$14,490.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four  
396 Hundred Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

397 (h) For counties with a total population of more than  
398 six thousand (6,000) and not more than ten thousand (10,000), an  
399 amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seventy-five Dollars





400 (\$12,075.00), but not less than Eight Thousand Four Hundred  
401 Fifty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$8,452.50).

402 (i) For counties with a total population of not more  
403 than six thousand (6,000), an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand  
404 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$9,660.00) but not less than Six  
405 Thousand Six Hundred Forty-one Dollars and Twenty-five Cents  
406 (\$6,641.25).

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

411 (2) In the event of a reregistration within such county, or  
412 a redistricting that necessitates the hiring of additional deputy  
413 registrars, the board of supervisors, in its discretion, may by  
414 contract compensate the county registrar amounts in addition to  
415 the sums prescribed herein.

416 (3) As compensation for their services in assisting the  
417 county election commissioners in performance of their duties in  
418 the revision of the voter roll as electronically maintained by the  
419 Statewide Elections Management System and in assisting the  
420 election commissioners, executive committees or boards of  
421 supervisors in connection with any election, the registrar shall  
422 receive the same daily per diem and limitation on meeting days as  
423 provided for the board of election commissioners as set out in



424 Sections 23-15-153 and 23-15-227 to be paid from the general fund  
425 of the county.

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

430 (5) The circuit clerk shall, in addition to any other  
431 compensation provided for by law, be entitled to receive as  
432 compensation from the board of supervisors the amount of \* \* \* Ten  
433 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per year. This payment shall be for  
434 the performance of his or her duties in regard to the conduct of  
435 elections and the performance of his or her other duties.

436 (6) The municipal clerk shall, in addition to any other  
437 compensation for performance of duties, be eligible to receive as  
438 compensation from the municipality's governing authorities a  
439 reasonable amount of additional compensation for reimbursement of  
440 costs and for additional duties associated with mail-in  
441 registration of voters.

442 (7) The board of supervisors shall not allow any additional  
443 compensation authorized under this section for services as county  
444 registrar to any circuit clerk who is receiving fees as  
445 compensation for his or her services equal to the limitation on  
446 compensation prescribed in Section 9-1-43.

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



449 [Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as

450 follows:]

451 25-3-3. (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in  
452 this section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the  
453 county and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced,  
454 the actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified  
455 to the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions  
456 of Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of  
457 gas as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions  
458 of Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

459 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various  
460 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as  
461 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of  
462 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The  
463 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the  
464 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed  
465 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year  
466 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

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

470 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
471 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than  
472 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of Sixty-seven  
473 Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$67,200.00);



474 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
475 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two  
476 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of Sixty-four  
477 Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$64,575.00);

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

482 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
483 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but  
484 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary  
485 of Fifty-eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$58,800.00);

486 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
487 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but  
488 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a  
489 salary of Fifty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$56,700.00);

490 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
491 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less  
492 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary  
493 of Fifty-five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars  
494 (\$55,125.00);

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



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

502 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax  
503 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in  
504 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a  
505 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

506 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
507 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,  
508 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax  
509 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
510 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid  
511 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)  
512 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor  
513 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
514 (\$3,500.00) per year.

515 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
516 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall  
517 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid  
518 additional compensation when there is a contract between the  
519 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor  
520 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,  
521 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax  
522 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional



523 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or  
524 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the  
525 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

526 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of  
527 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension  
528 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,  
529 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
530 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after  
531 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified  
532 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland  
533 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax  
534 assessor holds a valid designation from the International  
535 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping  
536 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or  
537 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an  
538 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually  
539 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax  
540 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment  
541 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing  
542 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser  
543 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional  
544 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning  
545 the next fiscal year after completion.

546 (8) The salaries provided for in this section shall be the  
547 total funds paid to the county assessors and tax collectors and



548 shall be full compensation for their services, with any fees being  
549 paid to the county general fund.

550 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be  
551 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by  
552 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;  
553 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and  
554 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be  
555 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or  
556 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date  
557 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made  
558 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.

559 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**  
560 **follows:]**

561 (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in this  
562 section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the county  
563 and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced, the  
564 actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified to  
565 the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of  
566 Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of gas  
567 as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of  
568 Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

569 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various  
570 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as  
571 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of  
572 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The



573 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the  
574 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed  
575 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year  
576 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

577 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
578 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary  
579 of \* \* \* Seventy-five Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars  
580 (\$75,560.00);

581 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
582 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than  
583 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
584 Seventy-two Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$72,200.00);

585 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
586 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two  
587 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \* Sixty-nine  
588 Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$69,575.00);

589 (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
590 at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) but less  
591 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
592 Sixty-six Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$66,425.00);

593 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
594 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but  
595 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary  
596 of \* \* \* Sixty-three Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$63,800.00);





597 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
598 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but  
599 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a  
600 salary of \* \* \* Sixty-one Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars  
601 (\$61,700.00);

602 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
603 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less  
604 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary  
605 of \* \* \* Sixty Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars  
606 (\$60,125.00);

607 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
608 less than Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary  
609 of \* \* \* Fifty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars  
610 (\$55,929.00).

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

615 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax  
616 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in  
617 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a  
618 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

619 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
620 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,  
621 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax



622 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
623 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid  
624 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)  
625 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor  
626 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
627 (\$3,500.00) per year.

628 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
629 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall  
630 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid  
631 additional compensation when there is a contract between the  
632 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor  
633 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,  
634 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax  
635 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional  
636 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or  
637 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the  
638 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

639 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of  
640 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension  
641 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,  
642 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
643 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after  
644 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified  
645 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland  
646 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax



647 assessor holds a valid designation from the International  
648 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping  
649 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or  
650 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an  
651 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually  
652 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax  
653 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment  
654 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing  
655 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser  
656 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional  
657 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning  
658 the next fiscal year after completion.

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

663 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be  
664 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by  
665 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;  
666 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and  
667 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be  
668 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or  
669 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date  
670 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made  
671 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.



672 [From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as  
673 follows:]

674 (1) The term "total assessed valuation" as used in this  
675 section only refers to the ad valorem assessment for the county  
676 and, in addition, in counties where oil or gas is produced, the  
677 actual value of oil at the point of production, as certified to  
678 the counties by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of  
679 Sections 27-25-501 through 27-25-525, and the actual value of gas  
680 as certified by the Department of Revenue under the provisions of  
681 Sections 27-25-701 through 27-25-723.

682 (2) The salary of assessors and collectors of the various  
683 counties is fixed as full compensation for their services as  
684 county assessors or tax collectors, or both if the office of  
685 assessor has been combined with the office of tax collector. The  
686 annual salary of each assessor or tax collector, or both if the  
687 offices have been combined, shall be based upon the total assessed  
688 valuation of his respective county for the preceding taxable year  
689 in the following categories and for the following amounts:

690 (a) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
691 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) or more, a salary  
692 of \* \* \* Eighty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$80,560.00);

693 (b) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
694 at least Two Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00) but less than  
695 Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
696 Seventy-seven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$77,200.00);



697 (c) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
698 at least One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) but less than Two  
699 Billion Dollars (\$2,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
700 Seventy-four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-five Dollars  
701 (\$74,575.00);

702 (d) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
703 at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) but less  
704 than One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00), a salary of \* \* \*  
705 Seventy-one Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-five Dollars  
706 (\$71,425.00);

707 (e) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
708 at least Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00) but  
709 less than Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00), a salary  
710 of \* \* \* Sixty-eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$68,800.00);

711 (f) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
712 at least One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00) but  
713 less than Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$250,000,000.00), a  
714 salary of \* \* \* Sixty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars  
715 (\$66,700.00);

716 (g) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
717 at least Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) but less  
718 than One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00), a salary  
719 of \* \* \* Sixty-five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars  
720 (\$65,125.00);



721 (h) For counties having a total assessed valuation of  
722 less than Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00), a salary  
723 of \* \* \* Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars  
724 (\$60,929.00).

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

729 (4) The annual salary established for assessors and tax  
730 collectors shall not be reduced as a result of a reduction in  
731 total assessed valuation. The salaries shall be increased as a  
732 result of an increase in total assessed valuation.

733 (5) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
734 and tax collectors in counties having two (2) judicial districts,  
735 the board of supervisors shall pay such assessors and tax  
736 collectors an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
737 (\$3,500.00) per year. In addition to all other compensation paid  
738 to assessors or tax collectors, in counties maintaining two (2)  
739 full-time offices, the board of supervisors shall pay the assessor  
740 or tax collector an additional Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
741 (\$3,500.00) per year.

742 (6) In addition to all other compensation paid to assessors  
743 and tax collectors, the board of supervisors of a county shall  
744 allow for such assessor or tax collector, or both, to be paid  
745 additional compensation when there is a contract between the



746 county and one or more municipalities providing that the assessor  
747 or tax collector, or both, shall assess or collect taxes, or both,  
748 for the municipality or municipalities; and such assessor or tax  
749 collector, or both, shall be authorized to receive such additional  
750 compensation from the county and/or the municipality or  
751 municipalities in any amount allowed by the county and/or the  
752 municipality or municipalities for performing those services.

753 (7) When any tax assessor holds a valid certificate of  
754 educational recognition from the Mississippi Cooperative Extension  
755 Service or is a licensed appraiser under Section 73-34-1 et seq.,  
756 he shall receive an additional One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars  
757 (\$1,500.00) annually beginning the next fiscal year after  
758 completion. When any tax assessor is a licensed state certified  
759 Residential Appraiser (RA) or licensed state certified Timberland  
760 Appraiser (TA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., or when any tax  
761 assessor holds a valid designation from the International  
762 Association of Assessing Officers as a Cadastral Mapping  
763 Specialist (CMS) or Personal Property Specialist (PPS) or  
764 Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES), he shall receive an  
765 additional Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) annually  
766 beginning the next fiscal year after completion. When any tax  
767 assessor holds the valid designation of Certified Assessment  
768 Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing  
769 Officers or is a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser  
770 (GA) under Section 73-34-1 et seq., he shall receive an additional



771 Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) annually beginning  
772 the next fiscal year after completion.

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

777 (9) The salaries provided for in this section shall be  
778 payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month by  
779 chancery clerk's warrant drawn on the general fund of the county;  
780 however, the board of supervisors, by resolution duly adopted and  
781 entered on its minutes, may provide that such salaries shall be  
782 paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth day of each month or  
783 every two (2) weeks pursuant to Section 25-3-29. If a pay date  
784 falls on a weekend or legal holiday, salary payments shall be made  
785 on the workday immediately preceding the weekend or legal holiday.

786 **SECTION 4.** Section 25-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
787 amended as follows:

788 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**  
789 **follows:]**

790 25-7-9. (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge  
791 the following fees:

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

794 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,  
795 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,





796 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of  
797 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)  
798 pages..... \$ 25.00  
799 (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
800 (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,  
801 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five  
802 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00  
803 (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,  
804 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)  
805 pages.....\$ 25.00  
806 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00  
807 (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
808 (iv) Sectional index entries per section or  
809 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00  
810 (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00  
811 (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on  
812 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any  
813 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00  
814 (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or  
815 on file:  
816 If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
817 per page.....\$ .50  
818 If performed by any other person,  
819 per page.....\$ .25  
820 (ii) Entering marginal notations on



821 documents of record.....\$ 1.00

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

824 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of  
825 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable  
826 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county  
827 treasury, an annual sum not  
828 exceeding.....\$3,000.00

829 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to  
830 be approved by the chancellor:

831 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)  
832 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00

833 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00

834 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total  
835 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery  
836 court.

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

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

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



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

851 (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services  
852 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that  
853 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or  
854 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or  
855 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute  
856 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,  
857 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing  
858 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The  
859 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set  
860 forth without additional compensation or  
861 fee.....\$ 85.00

862 (3) For every civil case filed:

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

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

869 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.  
870 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings



871 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving  
872 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of  
873 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,  
874 at the time of filing.

875 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**  
876 **follows:]**

877 (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge the  
878 following fees:

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

881 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,  
882 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,  
883 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of  
884 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)  
885 pages..... \$ 25.00

886 (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

887 (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,  
888 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five  
889 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00

890 (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,  
891 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)  
892 pages.....\$ 25.00

893 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00

894 (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00



895 (iv) Sectional index entries per section or  
896 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00  
897 (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00  
898 (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on  
899 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any  
900 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00  
901 (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or  
902 on file:  
903 If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
904 per page.....\$ .50  
905 If performed by any other person,  
906 per page.....\$ .25  
907 (ii) Entering marginal notations on  
908 documents of record.....\$ 1.00  
909 (e) For \* \* \* attending the board of supervisors' \* \* \*  
910 meeting, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ \* \* \*2,500.00  
911 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of  
912 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable  
913 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county  
914 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ \* \* \*5,500.00  
915 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to  
916 be approved by the chancellor:  
917 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)  
918 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00  
919 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00



920            Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total  
921 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery  
922 court.

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

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

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

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

937            (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services  
938 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that  
939 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or  
940 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or  
941 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute  
942 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,  
943 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing  
944 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The



945 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set  
946 forth without additional compensation or  
947 fee.....\$ 85.00

948 (3) For every civil case filed:

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

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

955 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.  
956 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings  
957 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving  
958 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of  
959 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,  
960 at the time of filing.

961 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**  
962 **follows:]**

963 (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge the  
964 following fees:

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

967 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,  
968 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,



969 etc., per book and page listed where applicable, each deed of  
 970 trust, or any other document, for the first five (5)  
 971 pages..... \$ 25.00  
 972           (ii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
 973           (c) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,  
 974 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first five  
 975 (5) pages.....\$ 25.00  
 976           (ii) Recording each oil and gas assignment,  
 977 amendment of assignment, release, etc., first five (5)  
 978 pages.....\$ 25.00  
 979 per additional assignee.....\$ 18.00  
 980           (iii) Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
 981           (iv) Sectional index entries per section or  
 982 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00  
 983           (v) Archive fee.....\$ 1.00  
 984           (vi) Entering marginal notations, if requested on  
 985 document or by cover letter, pertaining to the recording of any  
 986 oil and gas document only per book and page.....\$ 4.00  
 987           (d) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or  
 988 on file:  
 989           If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
 990 per page.....\$ .50  
 991           If performed by any other person,  
 992 per page.....\$ .25  
 993           (ii) Entering marginal notations on





994 documents of record.....\$ 1.00  
 995 (e) For \* \* \* attending the board of supervisors' \* \* \*  
 996 meeting an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ \* \* \*5,000.00  
 997 (f) For other services as clerk of the board of  
 998 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable  
 999 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county  
 1000 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$ \* \* \*10,000.00  
 1001 (g) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to  
 1002 be approved by the chancellor:  
 1003 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and two (2)  
 1004 deputies, each.....\$ 85.00  
 1005 For the second chancellor sitting, clerk only.....\$ 85.00  
 1006 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total  
 1007 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery  
 1008 court.  
 1009 (h) On order of the court, clerks and not more than two  
 1010 (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each term of  
 1011 court for attendance upon the court to get up records.  
 1012 (i) For public service not otherwise specifically  
 1013 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to  
 1014 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an  
 1015 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00  
 1016 (j) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the  
 1017 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00



1018           The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a  
1019 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording  
1020 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such  
1021 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be  
1022 demanded before the document is recorded.

1023           (2) The following fee shall be a total fee for all services  
1024 performed by the clerk with respect to any civil case filed that  
1025 includes, but is not limited to, divorce, alteration of birth or  
1026 marriage certificate, removal of minority, guardianship or  
1027 conservatorship, estate of deceased, adoption, land dispute  
1028 injunction, settlement of small claim, contempt, modification,  
1029 partition suit, or commitment, which shall be payable upon filing  
1030 and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the time of filing. The  
1031 clerk or his successor in office shall perform all duties set  
1032 forth without additional compensation or  
1033 fee.....\$     85.00

1034           (3) For every civil case filed:

1035           (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of  
1036 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established in  
1037 Section 9-21-14.....\$     10.00

1038           (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the  
1039 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in  
1040 Section 9-21-45.....\$     40.00

1041           (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.  
1042 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings



1043 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving  
1044 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of  
1045 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,  
1046 at the time of filing.

1047 **SECTION 5.** Section 25-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1048 brought forward as follows:

1049 25-7-13. (1) The clerks of the circuit court shall charge  
1050 the following fees:

1051 (a) Docketing, filing, marking and registering each  
1052 complaint, petition and indictment.....\$ 85.00

1053 The fee set forth in this paragraph shall be the total fee  
1054 for all services performed by the clerk up to and including entry  
1055 of judgment with respect to each complaint, petition or  
1056 indictment, including all answers, claims, orders, continuances  
1057 and other papers filed therein, issuing each writ, summons,  
1058 subpoena or other such instruments, swearing witnesses, taking and  
1059 recording bonds and pleas, and recording judgments, orders, fiats  
1060 and certificates; the fee shall be payable upon filing and shall  
1061 accrue to the clerk at the time of collection. The clerk or his  
1062 successor in office shall perform all duties set forth above  
1063 without additional compensation or fee.

1064 (b) Docketing and filing each motion to renew judgment,  
1065 notice of renewal of judgment, suggestion for a writ of  
1066 garnishment, suggestion for a writ of execution and judgment



1067 debtor actions and issuing all process, filing and recording  
1068 orders or other papers and swearing witnesses.....\$ 35.00

1069 (c) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be  
1070 deposited to the credit of the Comprehensive Electronic Court  
1071 Systems Fund established in Section 9-21-14.....\$ 10.00

1072 (d) For every civil case filed, an additional fee to be  
1073 deposited to the credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund  
1074 established in Section 9-21-45.....\$ 40.00

1075 (2) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section,  
1076 the clerks of the circuit court shall charge the following fees:

1077 (a) Filing and marking each order or other paper and  
1078 recording and indexing same.....\$ 2.00

1079 (b) Issuing each writ, summons, subpoena, citation,  
1080 capias and other such instruments.....\$ 1.00

1081 (c) Administering an oath and taking bond.....\$ 2.00

1082 (d) Certifying copies of filed documents, for each  
1083 complete document.....\$ 1.00

1084 (e) Recording orders, fiats, licenses, certificates,  
1085 oaths and bonds:  
1086 First page.....\$ 2.00  
1087 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00

1088 (f) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or on  
1089 file and entering marginal notations on documents of record:  
1090 If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
1091 per page.....\$ 1.00



1092                   If performed by any other person,  
1093 per page.....\$           .25  
1094                   (g) Judgment roll entry.....\$       5.00  
1095                   (h) Taxing cost and certificate.....\$       1.00  
1096                   (i) For taking and recording application for marriage  
1097 license, for filing and recording consent of parents when required  
1098 by law, for filing and recording medical certificate, filing and  
1099 recording proof of age, recording and issuing license, recording  
1100 and filing returns.....\$       35.00  
1101                   The clerk shall deposit Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) of each fee  
1102 collected for a marriage license in the Victims of Domestic  
1103 Violence Fund established in Section 93-21-117, on a monthly  
1104 basis.  
1105                   (j) For certified copy of marriage license and search  
1106 of record, the same fee charged by the Bureau of Vital Statistics  
1107 of the State Board of Health.  
1108                   (k) For public service not particularly provided for,  
1109 the circuit court may allow the clerk, per annum, to be paid by  
1110 the county on presentation of the circuit court's order, the  
1111 following amount.....\$5,000.00  
1112                   However, in the counties having two (2) judicial districts,  
1113 such above allowance shall be made for each judicial district.  
1114                   (l) For drawing jurors and issuing venire, to be paid  
1115 by the county.....\$       5.00



1116 (m) For each day's attendance upon the circuit court  
1117 term, for himself and necessary deputies allowed by the court,  
1118 each to be paid by the county.....\$ 75.00

1119 (n) Summons, each juror to be paid by the county upon  
1120 the allowance of the court.....\$ 1.00

1121 (o) For issuing each grand jury subpoena, to be paid by  
1122 the county on allowance by the court, not to exceed Twenty-five  
1123 Dollars (\$25.00) in any one (1) term of court.....\$ 1.00

1124 (p) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the  
1125 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

1126 (3) On order of the court, clerks and deputies may be  
1127 allowed five (5) extra days for attendance upon the court to get  
1128 up records.

1129 (4) The clerk's fees in state cases where the state fails in  
1130 the prosecution, or in cases of felony where the defendant is  
1131 convicted and the cost cannot be made out of his estate, in an  
1132 amount not to exceed Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) in one (1)  
1133 year, shall be paid out of the county treasury on approval of the  
1134 circuit court, and the allowance thereof by the board of  
1135 supervisors of the county. In counties having two (2) judicial  
1136 districts, such allowance shall be made in each judicial district;  
1137 however, the maximum thereof shall not exceed Eight Hundred  
1138 Dollars (\$800.00). Clerks in the circuit court, in cases where  
1139 appeals are taken in criminal cases and no appeal bond is filed,  
1140 shall be allowed by the board of supervisors of the county after



1141 approval of their accounts by the circuit court, in addition to  
1142 the above fees, for making such transcript the rate of Two Dollars  
1143 (\$2.00) per page.

1144 (5) The clerk of the circuit court may retain as his  
1145 commission on all money coming into his hands, by law or order of  
1146 the court, a sum to be fixed by the court not exceeding one-half  
1147 of one percent (1/2 of 1%) on all such sums.

1148 (6) For making final records required by law, including, but  
1149 not limited to, circuit and county court minutes, and furnishing  
1150 transcripts of records, the circuit clerk shall charge Two Dollars  
1151 (\$2.00) per page. The same fees shall be allowed to all officers  
1152 for making and certifying copies of records or papers which they  
1153 are authorized to copy and certify.

1154 (7) The circuit clerk shall prepare an itemized statement of  
1155 fees for services performed, cost incurred, or for furnishing  
1156 copies of any papers of record or on file, and shall submit the  
1157 statement to the parties or, if represented, to their attorneys  
1158 within sixty (60) days. A bill for same shall accompany the  
1159 statement.

1160 **SECTION 6.** Section 25-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1161 brought forward as follows:

1162 25-7-19. (1) The sheriffs of the various counties of the  
1163 State of Mississippi shall charge the following fees:

1164 (a) A uniform total fee in all criminal and civil cases  
1165 for the service or attempted service of any process, summons,



1166 warrant, writ or other notice as may be required by law or the  
1167 court, each.....\$ 45.00

1168 (b) In all cases where there is more than one (1)  
1169 defendant residing at the same household, service on each  
1170 additional defendant.....\$ 5.00

1171 (c) After final judgment has been enrolled, notice of  
1172 further proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and  
1173 attachment and garnishment proceedings, shall be deemed a new suit  
1174 and the sheriff shall be entitled to the  
1175 following fee .....\$ 45.00

1176 (d) Taking bonds of every kind (for purposes of this  
1177 fee multiple bonds for criminal charges arising out of a single  
1178 incident or transaction shall be considered a single  
1179 bond).....\$ 25.00

1180 (e) Attendance in habeas corpus proceeding in vacation,  
1181 eminent domain court and commitment cases.....\$ 25.00

1182 (f) On all money made by virtue of any decree,  
1183 execution or attachment, or other process, the following  
1184 commissions, to wit:

1185 On the first One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), five  
1186 percent (5%),

1187 On the second One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), four  
1188 percent (4%),

1189 On all sums over Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00),  
1190 three percent (3%).





1191 (g) For all service of all process of every kind and  
1192 nature issued from without the county wherein it is to be served,  
1193 a fee of.....\$ 45.00

1194 In civil cases, all process sent out of the county, where  
1195 issued to another county for service, shall be accompanied by a  
1196 fee of Forty-five Dollars (\$45.00) to pay the sheriff's fee for  
1197 his execution of such process unless the clerk or justice shall  
1198 endorse on the process that the party at whose instance it issued  
1199 had filed an affidavit of inability to pay costs thereof. All  
1200 fees sent and unearned, and the whole of it, shall be unearned if  
1201 the writ be not legally and properly executed and returned, and  
1202 shall be remitted by the sheriff with the writ at his own expense.

1203 (2) (a) The sheriff shall keep a complete account of every  
1204 fee of every nature, commission or charge collected by him, and  
1205 shall file an itemized statement thereof monthly, under oath, with  
1206 the clerk of the board of supervisors of his county who shall  
1207 preserve same as a part of the records of his office, and he shall  
1208 make a remittance to the clerk of the board of supervisors of his  
1209 county on or before the fifteenth of each month for deposit into  
1210 the general fund of the county of all said fees, commissions and  
1211 charges collected during the preceding month. A fee for attempted  
1212 service of process is unearned absent two (2) documented actual  
1213 attempts to serve the process.

1214 (b) At least Ten Dollars (\$10.00) from each fee  
1215 collected and deposited into the county's general fund under the



1216 provisions of paragraphs (a), (c) and (g) of subsection (1) of  
1217 this section shall be used for the sheriffs' salaries authorized  
1218 in Section 25-3-25, as such Ten Dollar (\$10.00) amount was  
1219 authorized during the 2007 Regular Session in Chapter 331, Laws of  
1220 2007, for the purpose of providing additional monies to the  
1221 counties for sheriffs' salaries.

1222 (3) Any sheriff who shall knowingly fail to collect any fee  
1223 established by law which was in fact collectible by him or having  
1224 collected the fee shall fail to keep account of such fee or fail  
1225 to deposit the fee with the clerk of the board of supervisors as  
1226 provided by subsection (2), or such other person or office  
1227 entitled thereto, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in office and,  
1228 upon conviction therefor, shall be fined in an amount not to  
1229 exceed double the amount he failed to collect or pay over, or  
1230 imprisoned for not to exceed six (6) months in the county jail, or  
1231 be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

1232 This provision shall in no way lessen the sheriff's civil  
1233 liability on his bond, but shall be an additional penalty for  
1234 misfeasance or nonfeasance in office.

1235 **SECTION 7.** Section 25-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1236 amended as follows:

1237 25-7-27. (1) Marshals and constables shall charge the  
1238 following fees:

1239 (a) (i) In all civil and criminal cases, for each  
1240 service of process, summons, warrant, writ or other



1241 notice.....\$ \* \* \*55.00

1242 (ii) In all cases where there is more than one (1)  
1243 defendant residing at the same household, for service on each  
1244 additional defendant.....\$ \* \* \*10.00

1245 (iii) For service of each process of every kind  
1246 and nature issued from outside the county where it is to be  
1247 served, the fees provided in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of this  
1248 paragraph, as applicable, shall be assessed.

1249 (iv) When a complaining party has provided  
1250 erroneous information to the clerk of the court relating to the  
1251 service of process on the defendant or defendants and process  
1252 cannot be served after diligent search and inquiry on oath thereof  
1253 of the marshal or constable, as the case may be, charged with  
1254 serving such process, the fees provided in subparagraphs (i) and  
1255 (ii) of this paragraph, as applicable, shall be assessed.

1256 (v) When process has been attempted in one (1)  
1257 county but the defendant is not found, and process must be served  
1258 on that defendant in another county, the clerk shall notify the  
1259 complaining party that an additional fee or fees must be paid  
1260 before the process can be delivered to the other county.

1261 (b) After final judgment has been enrolled, further  
1262 proceedings involving levy of execution on judgments, and  
1263 attachment and garnishment proceedings shall be a new suit for  
1264 which the marshal or constable shall be entitled to the following  
1265 fee.....\$ \* \* \*55.00



1266 (c) For conveying a person charged with a crime to  
1267 jail, mileage reimbursement in an amount not to exceed the rate  
1268 established under Section 25-3-41(2).

1269 To be paid out of the county treasury on the allowance of the  
1270 board of supervisors, when the state fails in the prosecution, or  
1271 the person is convicted but is not able to pay the costs.

1272 (d) For other service, the same fees allowed sheriffs  
1273 for similar services.

1274 (e) For service as a bailiff in any court in a civil  
1275 case, to be paid by the county on allowance of the court on  
1276 issuance of a warrant therefor, an amount equal to the amount  
1277 provided under Section 19-25-31 for each day, or part thereof, for  
1278 which he serves as bailiff when the court is in session.

1279 (f) For serving all warrants and other process and  
1280 attending all trials in state cases in which the state fails in  
1281 the prosecution, to be paid out of the county treasury on the  
1282 allowance of the board of supervisors without itemization,  
1283 subject, however, to the condition that the marshal or constable  
1284 must not have overcharged in the collection of fees for costs,  
1285 contrary to the provisions of this section,  
1286 annually.....\$ \* \* \*4,500.00

1287 (2) Marshals and constables shall be paid all uncollected  
1288 fees levied under subsection (1) of this section in full from the  
1289 first proceeds received by the court from the guilty party or from  
1290 any other source of payment in connection with the case.



1291 (3) In addition to the fees authorized to be paid to a  
1292 constable under subsection (1) of this section, a constable may  
1293 receive payments for collecting delinquent criminal fines in  
1294 justice court pursuant to the provisions of Section 19-3-41(3).

1295 **SECTION 8.** Section 41-61-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1296 brought forward as follows:

1297 41-61-59. (1) A person's death that affects the public  
1298 interest as specified in subsection (2) of this section shall be  
1299 promptly reported to the medical examiner by the physician in  
1300 attendance, any hospital employee, any law enforcement officer  
1301 having knowledge of the death, the embalmer or other funeral home  
1302 employee, any emergency medical technician, any relative or any  
1303 other person present. The appropriate medical examiner shall  
1304 notify the municipal or state law enforcement agency or sheriff  
1305 and take charge of the body. When the medical examiner has  
1306 received notification under Section 41-39-15(6) that the deceased  
1307 is medically suitable to be an organ and/or tissue donor, the  
1308 medical examiner's authority over the body shall be subject to the  
1309 provisions of Section 41-39-15(6). The appropriate medical  
1310 examiner shall notify the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics within  
1311 twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the body in cases of death as  
1312 described in subsection (2)(m) or (n) of this section.

1313 (2) A death affecting the public interest includes, but is  
1314 not limited to, any of the following:



1315 (a) Violent death, including homicidal, suicidal or  
1316 accidental death.

1317 (b) Death caused by thermal, chemical, electrical or  
1318 radiation injury.

1319 (c) Death caused by criminal abortion, including  
1320 self-induced abortion, or abortion related to or by sexual abuse.

1321 (d) Death related to disease thought to be virulent or  
1322 contagious that may constitute a public hazard.

1323 (e) Death that has occurred unexpectedly or from an  
1324 unexplained cause.

1325 (f) Death of a person confined in a prison, jail or  
1326 correctional institution.

1327 (g) Death of a person where a physician was not in  
1328 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding death, or in  
1329 prediagnosed terminal or bedfast cases, within thirty (30) days  
1330 preceding death.

1331 (h) Death of a person where the body is not claimed by  
1332 a relative or a friend.

1333 (i) Death of a person where the identity of the  
1334 deceased is unknown.

1335 (j) Death of a child under the age of two (2) years  
1336 where death results from an unknown cause or where the  
1337 circumstances surrounding the death indicate that sudden infant  
1338 death syndrome may be the cause of death.



1339           (k) Where a body is brought into this state for  
1340 disposal and there is reason to believe either that the death was  
1341 not investigated properly or that there is not an adequate  
1342 certificate of death.

1343           (l) Where a person is presented to a hospital emergency  
1344 room unconscious and/or unresponsive, with cardiopulmonary  
1345 resuscitative measures being performed, and dies within  
1346 twenty-four (24) hours of admission without regaining  
1347 consciousness or responsiveness, unless a physician was in  
1348 attendance within thirty-six (36) hours preceding presentation to  
1349 the hospital, or in cases in which the decedent had a prediagnosed  
1350 terminal or bedfast condition, unless a physician was in  
1351 attendance within thirty (30) days preceding presentation to the  
1352 hospital.

1353           (m) Death that is caused by drug overdose or which is  
1354 believed to be caused by drug overdose.

1355           (n) When a stillborn fetus is delivered and the cause  
1356 of the demise is medically believed to be from the use by the  
1357 mother of any controlled substance as defined in Section  
1358 41-29-105.

1359           (3) The State Medical Examiner is empowered to investigate  
1360 deaths, under the authority hereinafter conferred, in any and all  
1361 political subdivisions of the state. The county medical examiners  
1362 and county medical examiner investigators, while appointed for a  
1363 specific county, may serve other counties on a regular basis with



1364 written authorization by the State Medical Examiner, or may serve  
1365 other counties on an as-needed basis upon the request of the  
1366 ranking officer of the investigating law enforcement agency. If a  
1367 death affecting the public interest takes place in a county other  
1368 than the one where injuries or other substantial causal factors  
1369 leading to the death have occurred, jurisdiction for investigation  
1370 of the death may be transferred, by mutual agreement of the  
1371 respective medical examiners of the counties involved, to the  
1372 county where the injuries or other substantial causal factors  
1373 occurred, and the costs of autopsy or other studies necessary to  
1374 the further investigation of the death shall be borne by the  
1375 county assuming jurisdiction.

1376 (4) The chief county medical examiner or chief county  
1377 medical examiner investigator may receive from the county in which  
1378 he serves a salary of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars  
1379 (\$1,250.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in  
1380 Sections 41-61-69 and 41-61-75, provided that no county shall pay  
1381 the chief county medical examiner or chief county medical examiner  
1382 investigator less than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per month  
1383 as a salary, in addition to other compensation provided by law.  
1384 In any county having one or more deputy medical examiners or  
1385 deputy medical examiner investigators, each deputy may receive  
1386 from the county in which he serves, in the discretion of the board  
1387 of supervisors, a salary of not more than Nine Hundred Dollars  
1388 (\$900.00) per month, in addition to the fees specified in Sections





1389 41-61-69 and 41-61-75; however, no county shall pay the deputy  
1390 medical examiners or deputy medical examiner investigators less  
1391 than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per month as a salary in  
1392 addition to other compensation provided by law. For this salary  
1393 the chief shall assure twenty-four-hour daily and readily  
1394 available death investigators for the county, and shall maintain  
1395 copies of all medical examiner death investigations for the county  
1396 for at least the previous five (5) years. He shall coordinate his  
1397 office and duties and cooperate with the State Medical Examiner,  
1398 and the State Medical Examiner shall cooperate with him.

1399 **SECTION 9.** Section 41-61-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
1400 amended as follows:

1401 **[Through December 31, 2023, this section shall read as**  
1402 **follows:]**

1403 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and  
1404 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be  
1405 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is  
1406 provided:

1407 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall receive One  
1408 Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00) for each completed report  
1409 of investigation of death, plus the examiner's actual expenses.  
1410 In addition to that fee, in cases where the cause of death was  
1411 sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the medical examiner  
1412 provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report, the medical  
1413 examiner shall receive for completing that report an additional



1414 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred Dollars  
1415 (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced training  
1416 in child death investigations and presents to the county a  
1417 certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State  
1418 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and  
1419 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene  
1420 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical  
1421 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

1422 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in  
1423 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
1424 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site  
1425 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket  
1426 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred  
1427 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1428 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is  
1429 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,  
1430 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert  
1431 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to  
1432 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid  
1433 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1434 **[From and after January 1, 2024, this section shall read as**  
1435 **follows:]**

1436 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and  
1437 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be



1438 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is  
1439 provided:

1440 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall  
1441 receive \* \* \* One Hundred Eighty-five Dollars (\$185.00) for each  
1442 completed report of investigation of death, plus the examiner's  
1443 actual expenses. In addition to that fee, in cases where the  
1444 cause of death was sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the  
1445 medical examiner provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report,  
1446 the medical examiner shall receive for completing that report an  
1447 additional Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred  
1448 Dollars (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced  
1449 training in child death investigations and presents to the county  
1450 a certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State  
1451 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and  
1452 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene  
1453 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical  
1454 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

1455 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in  
1456 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
1457 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site  
1458 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket  
1459 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred  
1460 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1461 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is  
1462 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,



1463 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert  
1464 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to  
1465 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid  
1466 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1467 **[From and after January 1, 2028, this section shall read as**  
1468 **follows:]**

1469 (1) For each investigation with the preparation and  
1470 submission of the required reports, the following fees shall be  
1471 billed to and paid by the county for which the service is  
1472 provided:

1473 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall  
1474 receive \* \* \* One Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$195.00) for each  
1475 completed report of investigation of death, plus the examiner's  
1476 actual expenses. In addition to that fee, in cases where the  
1477 cause of death was sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the  
1478 medical examiner provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report,  
1479 the medical examiner shall receive for completing that report an  
1480 additional Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred  
1481 Dollars (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced  
1482 training in child death investigations and presents to the county  
1483 a certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State  
1484 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and  
1485 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene  
1486 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical  
1487 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.



1488           (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in  
1489 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
1490 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site  
1491 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket  
1492 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred  
1493 Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

1494           (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is  
1495 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,  
1496 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert  
1497 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to  
1498 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid  
1499 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

1500           **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
1501 and after July 1, 2022.

