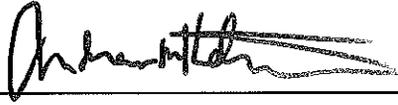


Chapter No. 515  
14/HR40/R433SG  
to 1226

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1226**

Originated in House  Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 1226

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-11-2, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE COUNTY POPULATION REQUIREMENTS FOR JUSTICE COURT JUDGES; TO CLARIFY THAT A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF JUSTICE COURT JUDGES IS NOT AUTHORIZED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 9-11-2, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

9-11-2. (1) From and after January 1, 1984, there shall be a competent number of justice court judges in each county of the state. The number of justice court judges for each county shall be determined as follows:

(a) In counties with a population, according to the latest federal decennial census, of thirty-five thousand (35,000) and less, there shall be two (2) justice court judges unless the board of supervisors, by resolution duly spread upon its minutes, finds that one (1) justice court judge is a competent number to adequately handle the needs of the citizens of the county.

(b) In counties with a population, according to the latest federal decennial census, of more than thirty-five thousand (35,000) and less than seventy thousand (70,000), there shall be three (3) justice court judges, unless the board of supervisors, by resolution duly spread upon its minutes, finds that two (2) is a competent number of justice court judges to adequately handle the needs of the citizens of the county.

(c) In counties with a population, according to the latest federal decennial census, of seventy thousand (70,000) and less than one hundred fifty thousand (150,000), there shall be four (4) justice court judges, unless the board of supervisors, by resolution duly spread upon its minutes, finds that three (3) is a competent number of justice court judges to adequately handle the needs of the citizens of the county.

(d) In counties with a population, according to the latest federal decennial census, of one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) and more, there shall be five (5) justice court judges, unless the board of supervisors, by resolution duly spread upon its minutes, finds that four (4) is a competent number of justice court judges to adequately handle the needs of the citizens of the county.

(2) The board of supervisors shall establish single member election districts in the county for the election of each of the justice court judges authorized and required to be elected for the county under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, and

one (1) justice court judge shall be elected for each district by the electors thereof. In any county authorized and required under the provisions of \* \* \* subsection (1)(a) of this section to provide for the election of two (2) justice court judges for the county in which there are two (2) judicial districts, the smaller of such judicial districts, according to population based upon the latest federal decennial census, shall comprise or shall be wholly encompassed within one (1) of such election districts.

(3) (a) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize or require more than five (5) justice court judges in any one (1) county from and after January 1, 1984, nor to authorize or require an increase \* \* \* in the number of justice court judges for any county during the term of office of any justice court judge.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize or require a county to decrease the number of justice court judge positions in the county as of June 30, 2014.

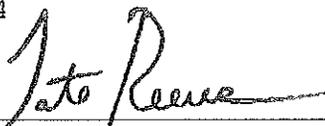
\* \* \*

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
and after July 1, 2014.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
March 31, 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE  
April 2, 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR

4/23/14

4:05pm