

State of Arkansas
76th General Assembly
Regular Session, 1987
By: Senator Wilson

SENATE BILL 543

"AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 108 OF CHAPTER 7 OF ACT 742 OF 1977, AS AMENDED [ARK. STATS. 17-4201]; TO RAISE THE MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM SALARIES FOR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICERS IN THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF COUNTIES; TO AMEND SECTION 109 (1) (a) OF ACT 742 OF 1977, AS AMENDED [ARK. STATS. 17-4202]; TO INCREASE PER DIEM FOR QUORUM COURT MEMBERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Section 108 of Chapter 7 of Act 742 of 1977, as amended, the same being Arkansas Statutes 17-4201, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 108. Compensation of Elected County Officers. (1) Authority to establish Compensation Levels. The Quorum Court of each of the several counties shall by ordinance fix the annual salaries of the following county officers within the minimum and maximum herein provided: The County Judge; the Sheriff and ex-officio Collector of Taxes; the Collector of Taxes, where established by law; the Assessor; the Treasurer; the Coroner; and Surveyor.

(2) Classification of Counties. For purposes of determining the salaries of the elected county officers, unless otherwise specifically provided in this Section, the several counties shall be classified on the basis of population as determined by the last preceding federal decennial census according to the following classifications:

Classification	Population
Class 1	0 to 9,999
Class 2	10,000 to 19,999
Class 3	20,000 to 29,999
Class 4	30,000 to 49,999
Class 5	50,000 to 69,999
Class 6	70,000 to 199,999

Class 7

200,000 and above

(3) Judges of the County Court. (a) The annual salary of a County Judge shall be in compensation for his services as the executive and administrator for the county, as Judge of the County Court, as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, where established, as presiding officer of the Quorum Court, and for all other services performed as provided by the Constitution, by law or by county ordinance.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the County Judge of the several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$19,200 nor more than \$30,404
Class 2	not less than \$20,400 nor more than \$32,005
Class 3	not less than \$21,600 nor more than \$33,605
Class 4	not less than \$22,800 nor more than \$35,206
Class 5	not less than \$24,000 nor more than \$36,805
Class 6	not less than \$25,200 nor more than \$43,206
Class 7	not less than \$26,400 nor more than \$46,407

(4) Sheriff. (a) The annual salary of a Sheriff shall be in compensation for his services as a law enforcement officer, as the supervisor of the county jail, as custodian of persons accused or convicted of crime, as an officer of the Circuit, Chancery, or County Courts, and as the ex-officio County Tax Collector and delinquent tax collector in those counties where the office is combined with the office of Sheriff, and for all other services performed as provided by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance. Provided in any county in which the office of Sheriff and the office of collector is combined into a single office, the maximum and minimum salaries of the county shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) greater than those prescribed for the appropriate class of county in subsection (b) hereof.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the Sheriff of the

several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$19,200 nor more than \$30,404
Class 2	not less than \$20,400 nor more than \$32,005
Class 3	not less than \$21,600 nor more than \$33,605
Class 4	not less than \$22,800 nor more than \$35,206
Class 5	not less than \$24,000 nor more than \$36,805
Class 6	not less than \$25,200 nor more than \$43,206
Class 7	not less than \$26,400 nor more than \$46,407

(5) County Tax Collector. (a) In those counties where the office of County Tax Collector has been separated from the office of Sheriff, the annual salary of a County Tax Collector shall be in compensation for services as Tax Collector and delinquent tax collector, and for all other services performed by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the County Tax Collector in those counties where the office has been separated from the office of Sheriff shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$15,600 nor more than \$25,604
Class 2	not less than \$16,800 nor more than \$27,204
Class 3	not less than \$18,000 nor more than \$28,805
Class 4	not less than \$19,200 nor more than \$30,404
Class 5	not less than \$20,400 nor more than \$32,005
Class 6	not less than \$21,600

Class 7

nor more than \$36,805

not less than \$22,800

nor more than \$40,006

(6) County and Probate Clerk. (a) The annual salary of a County and Probate Clerk shall be in compensation for his services as County Clerk, Probate Clerk, clerk of the County Court, clerk of the Quorum Court and Registrar of voters, and for all other services performed as provided by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance; provided that in those counties where the office of County and Probate Clerk is combined with the office of Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder, the salary shall be as provided in this Section. Provided, that in those counties where the office of County and Probate Clerk is combined with the office of Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder, the minimum and maximum salaries shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) greater than those prescribed for the appropriate class county in subsection (b) hereof.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the County and Probate Clerk of the several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary Per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$15,600 nor more than \$25,604
Class 2	not less than \$16,800 nor more than \$27,204
Class 3	not less than \$18,000 nor more than \$28,805
Class 4	not less than \$19,200 nor more than \$30,404
Class 5	not less than \$20,400 nor more than \$32,005
Class 6	not less than \$21,600 nor more than \$36,805
Class 7	not less than \$22,800 nor more than \$40,006

(7) Circuit Clerk. (a) The annual salary of a Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder shall be in compensation for his services as Clerk of the Circuit Court, as clerk of the Chancery Court, and as ex-officio Recorder, and for all other services performed as provided by the Constitution, by law or by

county ordinance; provided that in those counties where the office of Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder is combined with the office of County and Probate Clerk the minimum and maximum salaries shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) greater than those prescribed for the appropriate class county in subsection (b) hereof.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder of the several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary Per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$15,600 nor more than \$25,604
Class 2	not less than \$16,800 nor more than \$27,204
Class 3	not less than \$18,000 nor more than \$28,805
Class 4	not less than \$19,200 nor more than \$30,404
Class 5	not less than \$20,400 nor more than \$32,005
Class 6	not less than \$21,600 nor more than \$36,805
Class 7	not less than \$22,800 nor more than \$40,006

(c) In those counties where the separate office of the Clerk of the Chancery Court shall be created by law, the minimum and maximum salaries shall be as provided in subsection (b) hereof.

(8) County Assessor. (a) The annual salary of a County Assessor shall be in compensation for all services performed as County Assessor and appraiser, and as provided by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the County Assessor of the several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary Per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$15,600 nor more than \$25,604
Class 2	not less than \$16,800 nor more than \$27,204
Class 3	not less than \$18,000

	nor more than \$28,805
Class 4	not less than \$19,200
	nor more than \$30,404
Class 5	not less than \$20,400
	nor more than \$32,005
Class 6	not less than \$21,600
	nor more than \$36,805
Class 7	not less than \$22,800
	nor more than \$40,006

(9) County Treasurer. (a) The annual salary of a County Treasurer shall be in compensation for all services performed as provided by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum for the County Treasurer of the several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary Per Annum
Class 1	not less than \$15,600
	nor more than \$25,604
Class 2	not less than \$16,800
	nor more than \$27,204
Class 3	not less than \$18,000
	nor more than \$28,805
Class 4	not less than \$19,200
	nor more than \$30,404
Class 5	not less than \$20,400
	nor more than \$32,005
Class 6	not less than \$21,600
	nor more than \$36,805
Class 7	not less than \$22,800
	nor more than \$40,006

(10) County Coroner. (a) The compensation of a County Coroner shall be for all services performed by the Constitution, by law, or by county ordinance.

(b) The minimum and maximum salaries per annum of the County Coroner of the Several counties shall be as follows:

Classification	Salary Per Annum
Class 1 & 2	not less than \$163.00

	nor more than \$4,000.00
Class 3 & 4	not less than \$818.00
	nor more than \$8,001.00
Class 5 & 6	not less than \$1,637.00
	nor more than \$24,003.00
Class 7	not less than \$2,455.00
	nor more than \$27,931.00

(11) County Surveyor. Compensation of the County Surveyor shall be fixed by the Quorum Court of each of the several counties at a rate not to exceed \$36.00 per hour.

SECTION 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of Section 109 of Chapter 7 of Act 742 of 1977, the same being Arkansas Statutes 17-4202(1)(a), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) Per Diem Compensation. The per diem compensation for justices attending any official, regular, special or committee meeting of a quorum court shall be fixed by ordinance in each of the several counties; provided, the per diem compensation of justices during any one (1) calendar year shall not be less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per diem for each regular meeting nor exceed four thousand three hundred sixty five dollars (\$4,365.00) in counties having a population of less than 200,00 and shall not exceed six thousand one hundred ten dollars (\$6,110.00) in counties having a population of 200,000 or more."

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the ranges of compensation now provided by law for the various county officials are inadequate to permit reasonable and equitable compensation to such officials for their services; that this Act is designed to permit the compensation of such officers to be increased to a fair level and to enable such officers to cope with the high rate of inflation, and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and

safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.