

1 State of Arkansas  
2 81st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1997  
4  
5 By: Senator Everett

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 509

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED § 16-10-133 TO  
10 ALLOW THE SALARY OF SHARED TRIAL COURT STAFF PERSONS TO BE  
11 AUGMENTED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

### Subtitle

14 "TO ALLOW THE SALARY OF SHARED TRIAL  
15 COURT STAFF PERSONS TO BE AUGMENTED"

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

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 16-10-133 is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 "16-10-133. Trial court staff.

22 (a)(1) Beginning July 1, 1996, positions shall be authorized and funds  
23 appropriated to the Auditor of State from the State Administration of Justice  
24 Fund to provide one (1) staff person for each of the judges of the circuit,  
25 chancery, and probate courts. The staff person may be employed to perform  
26 secretarial, docketing, and management services. Each judge of the circuit,  
27 chancery, or probate court shall report to the Administrative Office of the  
28 Courts his intention to employ such a staff person. Two (2) or more judges  
29 within a judicial district may employ jointly, in their discretion, one (1)  
30 staff person when coordinated with the Administrative Office of the Courts.

31 (2) When any judge employs a part-time staff person at a part-time  
32 salary or does not employ a full-time staff person, but rather employs a staff  
33 person to share with another judge, then by written notification to the  
34 Administrative Office of the Court, the unused salary from the part-time or  
35 vacant position may be used to augment the salary of the shared staff person,  
36 provided however, no staff person shall be paid in excess of thirty-five

1 thousand dollars (\$35,000) per annum in salary under the provisions of this  
2 subsection.

3 (b) The circuit, chancery, or probate judges authorized by subsection  
4 (a) of this section to employ a staff person shall have the authority to  
5 select and hire the person who will serve, and any person so employed shall  
6 serve at the will and pleasure of the judge.

7 (c) The entry level salary of a trial court staff person shall be equal  
8 to that established in the state pay plan at grade 16. No trial court staff  
9 person authorized by this act shall receive a salary from the state in excess  
10 of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000). A county or counties shall be  
11 authorized to supplement the base salary of any trial court staff person, when  
12 approved by the quorum court.

13 (d) The staff persons shall be subject to the Uniform Attendance and  
14 Leave Policy Act, § 21-4-201 et seq., as administered by the judge by whom  
15 they are employed.

16 (e) A trial judge who already has one (1) or more staff persons on  
17 April 13, 1995 shall designate one (1) such staff person to be subject to and  
18 paid by the provisions of this act."

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20 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
21 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
22 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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24 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
25 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
26 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
27 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
28 act are declared to be severable.

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30 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
31 hereby repealed.

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