Act 373 SB503

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AND PAYMENT OF SUBSTITUTE COURT REPORTERS BY CIRCUIT AND CHANCERY JUDGES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. The Circuit and Chancery Judges are hereby authorized, in the absence of the official court reporter, to temporarily employ the services of a substitute court reporter, if such temporary employment is necessary and essential to prevent a disruption of the business of the Court. Such substitute court reporter shall be a reporter duly certified by the Arkansas Supreme Court Board of Certified Court Reporter Examiners.

SECTION 2. Whenever a Circuit or Chancery Judge temporarily employs a substitute court reporter, the judge may certify to the Auditor of State, upon forms prepared by the Auditor of State, that he has temporarily employed the services of a substitute court reporter and that such temporary employment was necessary and essential to prevent a disruption of the business of his court. The judge shall further furnish to the Auditor of State the name, address and social security number of the substitute court reporter and the number of days the substitute court reporter was temporarily employed, plus any other information concerning the employment, as requested by the Auditor of State.

SECTION 3. The Auditor of State is hereby authorized to pay, from funds specifically appropriated for this purpose, the substitute court reporter for the court reporting services furnished to the Circuit or Chancery Court. Such substitute court reporter will be paid at a daily rate, based upon the daily pay rate of a court reporter in Grade 19, Step 5 of the most current pay table contained in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act.

SECTION 4. In any one fiscal year, however, the Auditor of State will not pay for the services of a substitute court reporter or substitute court reporters, for any one Circuit or Chancery Judge, in excess of 20 working days. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to preclude or prohibit any Circuit or Chancery Judge from obtaining payment for the services of a substitute court reporter from the county or counties comprising the judge's judicial district, rather than from the Auditor of State.

APPROVED: 3/23/87