

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

1478

By: Representative Wilson

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN OMNIBUS STAFFING ACT FOR THE CIRCUIT AND CHANCERY COURTS OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, TO PROVIDE AUTHORITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS IN EACH POSITION IN THESE COURTS TO BE PAID BY THE COUNTY."

WHEREAS, this Act consolidates all separate salary Acts; and,

WHEREAS, this Act provides authority for the Quorum Court of Pulaski County to treat all county employees in the same manner; and

WHEREAS, certain county employees have not received salary increases due to a question concerning the Quorum Court having the legal authority to grant salary increases to these employees; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to bring into equal balance the salaries of Pulaski County employees.

NOW THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. Probation Officers. The salaries of the chief probation officer and coordinator probation officers previously set by Act 336 of 1985 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 2. Court Security Personnel (Bailiff). The salaries of the court security personnel previously set by Act 336 of 1985 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries

of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 3. Pre-Sentence Officer. The salaries of the pre-sentence officer previously set by Act 336 of 1985 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 4. Senior Law Clerk. The salary of each Senior Law Clerk for the Sixth Judicial Circuit previously set by Act 344 of 1987 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 5. Secretary. The salary of each secretary employed by the Sixth Judicial Circuit previously set by Act 336 of 1985 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 6. Case Coordinator. The salary of all case coordinators in the Sixth Judicial Circuit, which was previously set by Act 336 of 1985 and by county ordinance, shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 7. Junior Law Clerk. The salary of each junior law clerk for the Sixth Judicial Circuit previously set by Act 799 of 1985 and by county ordinance shall be amended to provide for an increase of the minimum salaries of four percent as of July 10, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 26, 1987, another increase of four percent beginning December 24, 1988, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 8. The salary of the standing Masters of the Chancery Court, previously set pursuant to Act 283 of 1987, Act 15 of 1986 (2nd Ex. Sess.), and by county ordinance shall remain as set unless a higher salary is provided for by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 9. The salary of the Case Coordinator employed by the Master-in-Chancery previously set pursuant to Act 283 of 1987 and by county ordinance shall remain as set unless a higher salary is provided for by any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 10. The salaries of the employees of the Chancery Clerk previously set by Act 14 of 1987, Act 121 of 1987 and by county ordinance shall remain as set, unless a higher salary is provided by any other legislative act or county ordinance. Also, the fund for the hiring of part-time employees in the Chancery Clerk's office shall remain at least \$11,300.00, unless the Quorum Court may provide for additional funds for said purpose as it may find necessary.

SECTION 11. All of the above salary increases shall apply retroactively as provided in Section 15 and shall apply prospectively to all employees covered by this act. Further, the above salary increases shall not operate to prevent salary increases as otherwise provided by this act or any other legislative act or county ordinance.

SECTION 12. All of the above salaries shall be paid by Pulaski County. All of the above salaries shall be paid bi-weekly by Pulaski County.

SECTION 13. When the county quorum court raises salaries for county

employees, they shall also raise salaries an equivalent amount for the above employees.

SECTION 14. These employees covered by this Act shall be treated by Pulaski County in the same manner as other Pulaski County employees for all other purposes.

SECTION 15. All of the employees covered by this act who were on the county payroll on or after July 10, 1987, shall receive a four percent retroactive reimbursement under this act for those days employed on or after July 10, 1987 in a position covered by this act. Also, all of the employees covered by this act who were on the county payroll on or after December 26, 1987, shall receive an additional compound four percent retroactive reimbursement under this act for those days employed on or after December 26, 1987 in a position covered by this act. Also, all of the employees covered by this act who were on the county payroll on or after December 24, 1988, shall receive an additional compound four percent retroactive reimbursement under this act for those days employed on or after December 24, 1988 in a position covered by this act. Further, any person not currently employed by Pulaski County shall be excluded from any retroactive reimbursement. Further, any employee that changed from a job covered by this act to another job covered by this act shall be included in and entitled to the retroactive reimbursement effect of this act, on a daily pro rata basis, for any time employed in a job covered by this act.

All employees entitled to retroactive reimbursement of salary increases under this section shall be paid in a lump sum payment.

SECTION 16. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 17. Severability. If any part of this act is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this act.

SECTION 18. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that adequate lawful funding should be provided for the Sixth Judicial District; and that the lawful funding is currently inadequate; and

that this act is immediately necessary to grant such authority. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being immediately 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.

