

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997
4
5 By: Senator Gordon
6
7

A Bill

SENATE BILL 521

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED § 16-17-704 TO
10 INCREASE TO FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS THE AMOUNT IN
11 CONTROVERSY JURISDICTIONAL LIMIT OF MUNICIPAL COURTS; AND
12 FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

15 "TO INCREASE TO \$4,000 THE AMOUNT IN
16 CONTROVERSY JURISDICTIONAL LIMIT OF
17 MUNICIPAL COURTS"

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 16-17-704 is amended to read as
22 follows:

23 "16-17-704. Original jurisdiction coextensive with county.

24 (a) The municipal court shall have original jurisdiction, coextensive
25 with the county wherein the court is situated, over the following matters:

26 (1) Exclusive of justices of the peace and of the circuit court,
27 over violations of all ordinances passed by the city council of the city or
28 quorum court of the county wherein the municipal court is situated;

29 (2) Exclusive of justices of the peace in townships subject to
30 this subchapter and concurrent with the circuit court, over misdemeanors
31 committed within the county and the issuance of search warrants within the
32 county;

33 (3) Concurrent with justices of the peace, and exclusive of the
34 circuit court, in all matters of contract where the amount in controversy does
35 not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100), excluding interest;

36 (4) Concurrent with the circuit court in matters of contract

1 where the amount in controversy does not exceed the sum of ~~three thousand~~
2 ~~dollars (\$3,000)~~ four thousand dollars (\$4,000), excluding interest;

3 (5) Concurrent with the circuit court in actions for the recovery
4 of personal property where the value of the property does not exceed the sum
5 of ~~three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ four thousand dollars (\$4,000); and

6 (6) Concurrent with the circuit court in matters of damage to
7 personal property where the amount in controversy does not exceed the sum of
8 ~~three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ four thousand dollars (\$4,000), excluding
9 interest.

10 (b) Municipal courts shall have jurisdiction to sit as examining
11 courts, and to commit, discharge, or recognize offenders to the court having
12 jurisdiction of the trial, and to bind persons to keep the peace or behavior.

13 (c) The jurisdiction of the courts as provided in this subchapter shall
14 be coextensive with the county. In counties having two (2) judicial districts,
15 the jurisdiction shall be limited to the district in which the court is
16 situated."

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

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

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

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