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Chapter V - Court System

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Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Chapter V - Court System

General Sessions Court

Private Acts of 1959 Chapter 77

SECTION 1. That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for all Counties having a population of not less than 31,575 and not more than 31,700 according to the Federal Census of 1950 or any subsequent Federal Census, which shall be designated as the General Sessions Court of said County. The Court shall be held in the Court House of each of said Counties and such other places in said Counties and times as the Judge of said Court shall designate by written rules of his Court and said Counties shall provide court rooms, dockets, a clerk's office, furnishings, and necessary supplies for the equipment and maintenance of said Court, and pay for same out of the ordinary funds of said Counties.

SECTION 2. That should this Act apply to Roane County, the said Court shall be officially designated as the "General Sessions Court of Roane County", and the said Court is hereby vested with all of the jurisdiction and shall exercise the authority conferred by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee upon the Justices of the Peace in civil and criminal cases and actions, and the Justices of the Peace in all Counties to which this Act applies are hereby divested of all such jurisdiction, power, and authority. The authority of said Justices of the Peace in their capacity as members of the Quarterly County Court, or in the performance of the rights of matrimony is in nowise affected by this Act; and the said Justices of the Peace shall retain the power and authority to issue warrants, both civil and criminal, and to subpoena witnesses, but said warrants shall be returnable for trial before the Judge of the General Sessions Court. But this Act shall in no wise affect the rights, powers and duties of any City Judge or Recorder in said County, except insofar as the City Judge or Recorder may exercise the said functions of an ordinary Justice of the Peace.

SECTION 3. That the General Sessions Court of Roane County shall have jurisdiction concurrent with the Circuit and Chancery Courts of the State of Tennessee to try and dispose of divorce cases and replevin actions, and said Court shall try and dispose of divorce cases and replevin actions in the same manner and with the same authority as is vested in the Circuit and Chancery Courts of the State of Tennessee, and the said General Sessions Court is hereby vested with original jurisdiction, said jurisdiction being concurrent with the Circuit and Criminal Courts of the State of Tennessee, to try and dispose of all cases relating to the abatement of certain public nuisances as set forth in Sections 23-301 to 23-316 inclusive of Tennessee Code Annotated.

Effective September 1, 1982, the General Sessions Court of Roane County shall be vested with jurisdiction to hear all juvenile cases, and to hear the probate and administration of wills and estates to the extent such jurisdiction was vested in the Office of the County Judge.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312

SECTION 4. That the Judge of said Court is hereby vested with and shall have interchangeable and concurrent jurisdiction with the Chancery and Circuit Judges of the State of Tennessee to grant fiats for writs of injunction, attachments and in other such actions where fiats are required.

SECTION 5. That before the commencement of any civil action, the plaintiff shall execute a cost bond with good security in the sum of Twenty Five (\$25.00) Dollars, or in lieu thereof, make a cash deposit with the Clerk of the General Session Court of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) and not more than Twenty Five (\$25.00) Dollars to secure the costs; but this Section does not prohibit any resident of the State of Tennessee taking the oath prescribed for poor persons to secure the costs.

SECTION 6. That the laws now regulating pleading and practice, stay of judgments, writs and processes in civil cases in the Courts of Justices of the Peace, shall apply to and govern said Court insofar as the jurisdiction of said Court as vested by Section 2 of this Act is concerned; and appeals from said Court shall be to the Circuit Court and shall be perfected in the same manner and within the same time as is now provided for appeals from Courts of Justices of the Peace.

SECTION 7. That the General Sessions Court shall be a Court of Record, and have a common seal and there shall be one civil docket and one criminal docket for the Court in which all cases to be tried under the jurisdiction conferred by Section 2 of this Act shall be entered immediately upon the issuance of the warrant; except that warrants issued by Justices of the Peace shall be entered immediately upon receipt by the Clerk of the General Sessions Court. Upon said docket shall be entered the style and number of each case, the date of the issuance of the warrant or process, the name of the officer to whom delivered, the return of the process in brief form, orders, judgments, executions, garnishments, lists of the fees of

the Court, of the Sheriff and all other Officers for their respective services, fees of witnesses for attendance, credits for payments upon judgements and upon costs, and the Judge by whom the case was tried. There shall be a direct and cross index of each case in the civil docket and a direct index giving the name of the defendant on the Criminal Docket, so as to provide ready access to the record of each case. The Officer to whom a warrant is given for service shall give a receipt for same, and no warrant, either criminal or civil, shall be taken from the office of the General Sessions Court until its issuance has been entered on said docket.

That in all cases tried and determined by the General Sessions Court and in which said Court has jurisdiction concurrent with the Circuit and Chancery Courts, the pleading and practice of such cases shall be the same as is provided by law for the pleading and practice of such cases in the Circuit and Chancery Courts; and the General Sessions Court shall keep a separate docket and Minute Book for all cases tried by said Court in which it has jurisdiction concurrent with the Circuit and Chancery Courts, and the Minutes of said Court shall be kept in the same manner as is required by law for Clerks and Masters of the Chancery Court to keep their Minute Books, and the Minutes of said Court shall be read in open Court and signed by the Judge as provided by law for Courts of Record.

Upon approval of this act as provided in Section 2, the Clerk of the General Sessions Court of Roane County shall also serve as the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Roane County and the county clerk shall cease to be clerk of such juvenile court. In those cases of juvenile jurisdiction conferred on the General Sessions Court by this act, separate docket and minute books shall be kept by the Clerk of the General Sessions Court. Upon approval of this act as provided in Section 2, the county clerk shall immediately transfer all records, files and other documents in such county clerk's possession relating to the Juvenile Court of Roane County to the Clerk of the General Sessions Court of Roane County.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1994, Chapter 154

In those cases of probate or administration of estates jurisdiction conferred on the General Sessions Court by this act, separate docket and minute books shall be kept by Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Roane County who shall serve as clerk to the Judge of the General Sessions Court in these matters only.

SECTION 8. That the General Sessions Court shall be in session daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, and each Saturday night from and after 8 o'clock P.M. until 11 o'clock P.M. for the examination and hearing of persons charged with any criminal offense, and taking and fixing of bail for the appearance of the accused, or ordering their discharge or commitment of jail, as required by law.

That the Judge of said Court shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to expedite the trial and disposal of cases. All process shall be returnable to the First Monday following the fifth day after service of process thereof, except on special order of the Court; and each Monday shall be a Rule Day so as to carry out the provisions of Section 3 of this Act.

SECTION 9. That the General Sessions Court, except as hereinbefore provided, is hereby vested with jurisdiction to try and determine and render final judgment in all misdemeanor cases brought before said Court by warrant or information wherein the person charged with such misdemeanor offenses enters a plea of guilty or requests a trial upon the merits, and expressly waives an indictment, presentment, and a Grand Jury investigation, and a jury trial, provided that the General Sessions Judge shall not levy a fine in excess of \$50.00. In such cases the trial shall proceed before the Judge and without a jury. The final judgment of such Court may be appealed to the Criminal Court, where such appeal shall be tried by a Judge of such Court without a jury and without indictment or presentment.

SECTION 10. That it shall be the mandatory duty of the Judge of the General Sessions Court, when a defendant is brought before said Court upon assignment or trial, to advise such defendant of his constitutional rights, to the aid of counsel, the right to be tried only upon presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury, the right to make a statement in reference to the accusation or the right to waive such statement, and the right to a trial by jury. Upon the defendant agreeing in writing to waive the right to be put on trial only by presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury and the right to be tried by a jury of his peers, such Court may proceed to hear and determine said case as is provided in Section 9 of this Act. Said waiver shall be written on or attached to the warrant substantially in words and figures as follows:

The defendant _____ pleads _____ guilty to the offense of _____ and waives his right to be tried only by indictment or presentment preferred by a Grand Jury and likewise waives trial by a jury of his peers.

SECTION 11. That no warrant or information charging a person with an offense against the laws of the State shall be delivered to any Peace Officer for the arrest of such person until after an entry in the Criminal Docket of the General Sessions Court has been made by the Clerk or Judge of said Court, showing the names of the person or person accused, the prosecutor, the Officer to whom delivered, and

his signature upon said Docket showing receipt of such process; except that Criminal Warrants issued by Justices of the Peace shall be entered immediately upon receipt by the Clerk of the General Sessions Court; all of such warrants, information, dockets, and other records of the General Sessions Court shall be available to the District Attorney General for any legal purpose.

SECTION 12. That all appeal bonds in civil cases, all bail bonds, recognizance bonds and appearance bonds of persons charged with criminal offenses for their appearance for assignment or trial in said General Sessions Court shall be taken by the Clerk or the Judge of said Court. This provision shall in no wise abridge the authority of the Sheriff to take bonds as is now provided by law.

SECTION 13. That an appeal from any case in which the jurisdiction of the General Sessions Court is concurrent with the Chancery, Circuit, and Criminal Courts, said appeal shall be to the same Appellate Court, and shall be perfected in the same manner and according to the same procedure as a similar case would be appealed from the Circuit, Chancery, and Criminal Courts.

SECTION 14. That in all cases tried under the jurisdiction conferred by Section 2, and Section 3 of this Act, the costs and fees of the General Sessions Court shall be the same as those provided by law for Justices of the Peace, except that in divorce cases the costs and fees shall be the same as for Circuit and Chancery Courts.

The fees and other compensation of the Sheriff, his Deputies, Constables, Game Wardens and State Highway Patrolmen for the execution of writs and process of said Court, and for attendance and mileage of witnesses shall be the same in said Court as those provided by law for the Courts of Justices of the Peace. All costs, fees, and mileage of witnesses, the fees, commissions, and emoluments of the Sheriff, his Deputies, Constables, State Highway Patrolmen, Game Wardens and other Officers, for services to said Court, and the fines, and forfeitures adjudged by said Court shall be handled, accounted for, and disbursed as required by law.

In those cases of juvenile, probate or administration of estates jurisdiction conferred on the General Sessions Court by this act, the costs and fees shall be as set from time to time by the general law.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312

SECTION 15. Beginning September 1, 1998, the court shall be divided into Part I and Part II, and there shall be two judges for the Court. Each judge shall have all the qualifications as prescribed by law for the Circuit Court Judges, shall take the oath prescribed for Circuit Court Judges, and shall have all the jurisdiction conferred upon the Judge of the General Sessions Court of Roane County, whether by general law or private act, specifically including but not limited to, jurisdiction to hear all juvenile cases and to hear the probate and administration of wills and estates conferred under Private Acts of 1982, Chapters 312, 323, and 380, as amended. The present judge of the court shall become the Judge of Part I of the court for the remainder of his current term in office. At the August, 1998 General Election, a Judge of Part I and a Judge of Part II of the court shall each be popularly elected to an individual initial eight (8) year term, and to eight (8) year terms thereafter, and shall take office on September 1 following the election. The Judge of Part I shall be the Senior Judge from September 1, 1998 until August 31, 2000, the Judge of Part II shall be the Senior Judge from September 1, 2000 until August 31, 2001, and thereafter the designation of Senior Judge shall alternate annually between the judges of the court. The Senior Judge shall be vested with the authority to assign for trial and disposition all matters, suits and cases which may be filed with the court.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1998, Chapter 135

SECTION 16. The compensation of the Judge of the General Sessions Court shall be forty thousand (\$40,000.00) dollars per annum, payable in monthly installments out of the general fund of the county of which he presides, and said compensation shall be in lieu of fees; provided however, that in the event that the State of Tennessee shall pay any type of remuneration (sic) directly to the General Sessions Judge of Roane County, Tennessee, for the General Sessions Court assuming the juvenile jurisdiction heretofore exercised by the County Judge, that any such amount so paid directly to the Roane County General Sessions Judge shall be deducted from the aforesaid annual salary of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00), and Roane County shall be liable for the difference between the amount paid directly to the General Sessions Judge by the State of Tennessee and the forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) salary as set out aforesaid.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 134
Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 200
Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312

SECTION 17. That should this Act apply to Roane County, the Judge of the General Sessions Court shall be elected by the qualified voters of said County at the general election on the first Thursday of August, 1960, to serve for a term of six (6) years beginning September 1, 1960, or until his successor is elected and qualified. His successor shall be elected at the general election on the first Thursday of August, 1966, for a term of eight years and thereafter the election shall be every eight years at the time when the

regular State Judges are elected, and each term shall be for eight years. The Governor of the State of Tennessee shall fill any vacancy which might result from the death, resignation, or incapacity of the Judge of the General Sessions Court by appointment as is now provided by law for filling vacancies created by the death, resignation, or incapacity of a Circuit Judge.

SECTION 18. That if the Judge of said Court fails to attend, cannot preside in a pending case, or for any reason fails to hold Court, then a majority of the attorneys present in such Court may elect one of their number who has the qualifications of such Judge, and when elected shall have the same authority as a regular Judge to hold the Court for the occasion. The Clerk of said Court shall preside at said election and shall keep in his office a permanent record of the election of such special Judges. Such special Judges shall not be entitled to compensation for their services.

SECTION 19. That should this Act apply to Roane County, the Clerk of the Circuit Court of said County shall act as the Clerk of the General Sessions Court, and when acting as Clerk of said Court, shall be designated as the "Clerk of the General Sessions Court of Roane County." Upon proper petition to the Chancery or Circuit Court of such County, he shall be allowed such additional deputy or deputies as may be necessary efficiently to conduct the business of the office, and likewise upon petition to either of said Courts the Chancellor or Circuit Judge may fix the compensation to be paid said deputy or deputies performing duties required by the General Sessions Court of said County. Such deputy or deputies shall possess all the powers herein conferred upon the Clerk. The Clerk, or his deputy or deputies for said Court shall be paid the sum of ten (10¢) cents a mile for the same travel required by the duties of this office as is hereinbefore provided for the judge of said Court, upon filling (sic) in the Clerk's Office by the claimant of a sworn itemized statement once each month showing the travel and amount involved. The Clerk is allowed to pay the compensation and travel allowances of his deputy or deputies out of the fees, commissions and emoluments of said General Sessions Court collected by him. The surplus, after paying the compensation and travel allowances of his deputy or deputies, and after paying costs, fees, and other sums as may be fixed by law or by this Court for parties, officers, witnesses etc., shall be paid into the general funds of the County. The Clerk of said Court shall have concurrent authority with the Judge of said Court to issue warrants and other processes and writs, except those which the law requires shall be issued only by or upon the fiat of a judicial officer.

Provided, however, in those cases of probate, or administration of estates, jurisdiction conferred on the General Sessions Court by this act, the Clerk and Master of Chancery Court of Roane County shall serve as Clerk to the Judge of the General Sessions Court. The Clerk and Master shall serve as clerk only as to these matters.

Provided, however, in those cases of juvenile jurisdiction conferred by this act, the County Clerk shall serve as Clerk to the Judge of the General Sessions Court. In all other matters over which the Judge of General Sessions Court has jurisdiction, the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall continue to serve as Clerk of the General Sessions Court of Roane County.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 37
Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312

SECTION 20. That the Sheriff of any County to which this Act applies, shall assign a Deputy Sheriff to attend the sessions of said Court to preserve order and to wait on and serve said Court. The Sheriff shall receive no additional compensation for his services or those of the Deputies so assigned, however, such Deputy Sheriff so assigned shall be appointed and compensated in the same manner as now provided by law for the appointment and compensation of Deputy Sheriffs of said County.

The Clerk of said Court shall certify to the County Judge of said County the names of the Deputy Sheriffs so assigned to said Court. The County Judge shall issue warrants drawn upon the Trustee for their compensation as provided herein.

The Sheriff of said County, or any Deputy Sheriff or Constable thereof shall serve legal processes, writs, and papers issued by the General Sessions Court with the same authority as provided by law in other inferior courts.

SECTION 21. That at the time this Act becomes effective all of the official dockets and records and papers in cases that are disposed of or that are undisposed of and pending, belonging to the Justices of the Peace or former Justices of the Peace of any County to which this Act might apply, shall be delivered to the General Sessions Court as the successor of the said Justice of the Peace. Papers in cases that are undisposed of and pending in the offices of the Justices of the Peace shall be delivered to the Clerk of the General Sessions Court.

SECTION 22. That the General Sessions Court shall have authority to hear and determine all undisposed of cases pending in the Courts of Justices of the Peace and any County to which this Act applies as if such cases had originated in the General Sessions Court.

SECTION 23. That this Act shall in no wise impair the right, title, or interest of any Justice of the Peace to any unpaid fees, or funds in which he had a right or interest in any proceeding, judgement, or suit, whether said cause is disposed of or pending when this Act becomes effective.

SECTION 24. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall be approved by a majority of the voters voting in an election to be held for such purpose. Within fifteen (15) days after the approval of this Act by the Governor, it shall be the duty of the County Board of Election Commissioners of the county (to which this Act applies) to call an election (for the county) to be held not less than twenty (20) nor more than forty (40) days from the date of such call for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the provisions of this Act. The ballots used in such election shall have printed thereon "General Sessions Court for Roane County" and the title of this Act and voters shall vote for or against its adoption. The votes cast at such election shall be canvassed by the County Board of Election Commissioners upon the first Monday occurring five (5) or more days next after the date of such election and the results shall be proclaimed by such board and certified to the Secretary of State. The qualification of voters shall be that provided by law for participation in general elections shall apply to an election held hereunder. The expenses of said election shall be paid for out of the general funds of the County wherein said election is held.

SECTION 25. That the Legislature expressly declares that each section, subsection, paragraph, and clause of this Act is severable, and that should any portion of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Act, but such unconstitutional or invalid portions shall be elided, and the Legislature declares that it would have enacted this Act with such unconstitutional or invalid portions elided therefrom.

SECTION 26. That all laws and parts of law in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 27. That this Act shall take effect on September 1, 1960, at the time designated for said Judge's term of office to begin, but to be effective also in such manner as to provide for the referendum and the election of said Judge prior thereto as hereinbefore stated, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 23, 1959.

Court System - Historical Notes

Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors

The following acts once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Roane County, but are no longer operative. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1825, Chapter 279, provided that hereafter, when any person was summoned as a juror in either Humphreys, Perry, or Roane Counties, who lived on the opposite side of the Tennessee River from the side on which the county seat was located, it would be the duty of the ferry men where any of the jurors must cross the river to attend the court summoning them as such to give the jurors a certificate where they paid their fares which the juror could file with the Trustee and be reimbursed the full amount of the ferry charge.
2. Acts of 1891, Chapter 26, provided that a special law court would be held at Rockwood in Roane County for the residents of the Sixth, Seventh, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Civil Districts of the county. This court would be one of the courts of the Third Judicial Circuit, held by the Judge of that circuit with jurisdiction of all civil and criminal cases arising in those civil districts. The Circuit Court Clerk at Kingston would transfer all the records of his court in these cases to the court at Rockwood and would likewise serve as the clerk of that court. The expenses of this special court would be paid out of the county treasury. This Act was repealed by the one following.
3. Acts of 1893, Chapter 52, repealed Acts of 1891, Chapter 26, and directed that all the unfinished business in the law court at Rockwood be transferred to the circuit court at Kingston, and all process and bonds likewise made to conform. Forfeitures would be taken, when necessary, by the court at Kingston.
4. Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 397, set up a Board of Jury Commissioners in Roane County composed of three discreet freeholders of the county, who were not attorneys or state, county, or city officials, who had no suit pending in court, and no more than two being of the same political party, who would be appointed for a term of six years by the circuit court judge, and who must be sworn into office by the oath prescribed in this Act. The Circuit Court Clerk, who would also be sworn according to another oath in this act, would serve the board as a clerk. The Board, after meeting and selecting one of their number as Chairman, was required to select from the tax rolls, or from other public sources, a number of names equal to one-fifth of the number voting in the

past presidential election, but never less than 250 nor more than 1500, who would make up the Jury List for the next two years. These names had to be entered in alphabetical order in a book provided for the Board by the Clerk and certified by all board members. This list would further be reported at the next term of the circuit court. These names were to be written also on scrolls, or cards, and placed into a box which would be locked and sealed, never to be opened except in the presence of the Board, or the Judge. From ten to fifteen days before the term of court would open, the box would be brought into court and opened, and a child under ten years of age would draw out the number of names ordered by the court which names were to be certified by the Board and delivered to the court. Five days before the court term opened the list would be sent to the Sheriff who would summon the jurors. Adequate records must be kept of those serving as jurors, and no excuse would be accepted by anyone other than the Judge.

5. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 225, established Boards of Jury Commissioners in the counties of Monroe, McMinn, and Roane. A three member board would be appointed by the circuit judge of the county from different geographical sections of the same, who were not attorneys, not state, county or city officers, who had no suit pending, and not over two from the same political party, who would serve a six year term, and be sworn into office under the terms and oath of the act. The Circuit Court Clerk would serve as clerk after being sworn to the oath prescribed in the Act. The Board must meet, select a chairman, and choose from the tax rolls, or other public sources, a number of names equal to one-fifth of the total votes cast in the latest presidential election but in no case to fall under 250, nor more than 1000. These people would be the Jury list for the next two years. Their names would also be entered in a book, furnished by the circuit court clerk in alphabetical order and the list be certified by all members of the Board. The names of those who were dead, or had been removed from the county were to be purged from the list. Provisions were made to summon special panels for the special cases and to replenish panels which might be on the verge of exhaustion. The Sheriff must summon the prospective jurors from the list of names delivered to him by the Board. The court had the power to investigate suspected frauds and irregularities. A schedule of forfeits and fines was established for non-compliance with, or violation of the terms thereof.
6. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 521, formed Boards of Jury Commissioners for Blount, McMinn, Roane, Monroe, Bradley, Polk, and Loudon Counties, who were to be appointed by the Judge of the Criminal Court, or the Circuit Court with Criminal Jurisdiction, the three of whom must possess the qualifications listed in the two preceding acts, but who would serve only a four year term and could not be reappointed. The Circuit Court Clerk was to continue as the Clerk to the Board in whose office the Board would meet on the first Monday in May, 1925, and every two years thereafter, to select a list of no less than 400 nor more than 800 names from the tax rolls, or other sources of public information, who, when chosen, would be the jury list for the next two years. The requirements for entering the names in a book and placing them in a box were the same as before. Two weeks before the court term, the Board would meet, shake the box, and a child under ten years of age would draw out of the box the number of names needed for the circuit and other courts. These cards would be placed in an envelope, confirmed, and sent to the Judge of the Criminal Court. The clerk would keep these names and return them to the box at the next board meeting. The Sheriff was obliged to summon both venires of prospective jurors. Provisions for special jury panels and to replenish exhausted panels were made simply to bring the box back into court and draw more names out of it. The remaining terms of this act were similar to the above acts except the Jury Commissioners would be paid \$4 each day for the time spent in this service.
7. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 285, amended Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 521, Item 6, above, so that the act would no longer apply to Loudon County.
8. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 797, amended the caption of Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 397, which applied only to Roane County, and which had apparently been superseded by the subsequent acts on the same subject, by making some changes in Sections 4, 7, and 18.
9. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 556, applies to several other counties as well as Roane and contains only a general repealing clause. Many of its terms correspond to those of preceding acts reported on these pages except the prohibition on the reappointment of a board member was removed. The remainder of this lengthy statute was a reenactment of the prior acts on this subject and unnecessary to be repeated here. This Act was cited and considered in *Baker v. State*, 191 Tenn. 560, 235 S.W.2d 435 (1951).
10. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 511, stated that in Roane County (identified by the use of the 1940 Federal Census figures) all jurors, both grand and petit, would be paid at the rate of \$5 per day but no tales juryman would be paid under this act unless serving more than one day.

11. Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 95, was properly ratified by the quarterly court but was also subject to approval by the voters in a referendum. The act would pay the jury commissioners \$10 each day and the same mileage as was then being paid to tales jurors. This Act has been superseded by public law.

Chancery Court

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Roane County, although they no longer have the force of law since they have either been superseded by general law, repealed, or failed to receive local ratification.

1. Acts of 1822, Chapter 13, provided that the Judges of the Supreme Court would arrange to hold a Court of Equity at the present places of holding the Supreme Court at least once each year. The Chancery Court would be held at Rogersville on the first Monday in November, at Charlotte on the fourth Monday in December, at Sparta on the second Monday in December, at Nashville on the fourth Monday in January, and at Columbia on the second Monday in January. Each term of court would endure for two weeks unless the docket was cleared in a shorter time.
2. Acts of 1824 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 14, scheduled the meetings of the Supreme Court at Knoxville, Sparta, and Nashville. The Act further directed the Judges of the Supreme Court to arrange among themselves to hold the Chancery Courts of the State at least twice each year at Greenville, Rogersville, Kingston, Carthage, McMinnville, Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte, and Jackson. The Chancery Court at Kingston would hear and decide cases arising in the counties of Knox, Anderson, Morgan, Roane, Rhea, Hamilton, Campbell, McMinn, Monroe, and Blount. The terms of Court would start in Kingston on the first Monday in June and December.
3. Acts of 1827, Chapter 79, formed two Chancery Divisions in Tennessee. The Eastern Division had in it the Courts at Rogersville, Greenville, Kingston, Carthage, and McMinnville, while the Courts at Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte, Jackson, and Paris were assigned to the Western Division.
4. Acts of 1827, Chapter 88, directed the Chancellors of the Eastern Division to hold the Courts therein as they were specified to be held in this Act at Greenville, Rogersville, Carthage, McMinnville, and at Kingston on the first Monday in June and December for the counties of Knox, Blount, Anderson, Morgan, Roane, Rhea, Hamilton, Campbell, McMinn, and Monroe.
5. Acts of 1829, Chapter 27, changed the opening dates for the terms of the Chancery Court at Kingston to be held hereafter on the fourth Monday of May and November each year.
6. Acts of 1831, Chapter 217, decreed that the Chancery Court at Kingston would hear cases hereafter only arising in the counties of Rhea, Hamilton, Roane, and Morgan.
7. Acts of 1832, Chapter 19, rearranged the times for opening the Chancery Courts in all the Courts of the State. The Chancery Court at Kingston would commence its terms of Court hereafter on the second Monday in June and December.
8. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 4, created three Chancery Divisions in Tennessee, pursuant to the adoption of the new State Constitution, each of which was further divided into Districts. In the Eastern Division the counties of Morgan and Roane would compose the Seventh District whose Court would be held at Kingston on the third Monday in April and October. The other grand divisions were the Middle Division and the Western Division.
9. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 116, set up the terms of the Chancery Courts for several of the counties in the Eastern District. The Eastern District courts which were changed were those at Jonesboro, Greenville, Rogersville, Tazewell, Dandridge, Knoxville, Pikeville, Madisonville, and Kingston whose Court terms would begin on the fourth Monday in March and September. Equity causes in Roane County could be filed in either Kingston or Madisonville as the complainants elected.
10. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 54, created the Fifth Chancery Division which was composed of the Chancery Courts meeting at Maryville, Kingston, Madisonville, Athens, Benton, Cleveland, Washington, Harrison, Pikeville, Jasper, Sparta, and Livingston, and the counties which were attached to those courts. A Chancellor, who must be a resident of the Division, would be elected to preside over the new Division.
11. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 13, reset the Chancery Court terms for Roane County to begin in Kingston on the first Monday after the fourth Monday in March, and on the first Monday after the fourth Monday in September of each year.
12. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 112, rescheduled the terms of the Chancery Courts at Jasper, Pikeville, Sparta, Livingston, Jamestown, Montgomery, Kingston, Decatur, and Washington in the Fifth Chancery Division. The terms of court would begin at Kingston on the third Monday in April and October.

13. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 9, changed the opening dates of the Chancery Court terms in Montgomery and Kingston, in Roane County; Montgomery's Chancery Court would start its terms on the third Mondays in April and October, while Kingston's would be held on the first Thursdays after the third Mondays in April and October.
14. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, divided Tennessee into the Eastern, Middle, Western, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Chancery Divisions. The Fifth Chancery Division included the counties of Polk, McMinn, Bradley, Hamilton, the Court at Chattanooga, Marion, Cumberland, Bledsoe, White, Overton, Fentress, Scott, Morgan, Meigs, Rhea, Blount, Monroe, and Roane whose court would continue to meet in Kingston on the Thursday after the third Monday in April and October.
15. Acts of 1865, Chapter 7, was a post Civil War Act which formed the 8th Chancery Division in Tennessee consisting of the counties of Sevier, Blount, Monroe, Roane, Knox, Anderson, and McMinn. A Chancellor would be appointed, or elected, to serve until his successor was elected.
16. Acts of 1865, Chapter 14, set the terms of court for the counties in the newly formed Eighth Chancery Division. The terms of the Chancery Court at Kingston in Roane County would start on the Thursday after the third Monday in April and October, all process being made to conform to those dates. The Chancellor of this Division was also charged to hold the Circuit Court in these counties by interchange.
17. Acts of 1865-66, Chapter 41, changed the terms of the Chancery Court in the Counties of Campbell, Union, Blount, and Roane whose court terms in Chancery reverted back to the third Monday in April and October.
18. Acts of 1866-67, Chapter 33, provided that hereafter the Chancery Court of Roane County would be held at Kingston on the fourth Monday of April and October.
19. Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 8, provided that the Chancery Court of Roane County would hereafter begin its terms of court on the fourth Monday in May and November with all process being directed to conform.
20. Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 60, Section 4, required that all suits now pending in Roane County's Chancery Court in which all the parties litigant live in Morgan County to be transferred together with all the records and exhibits to Morgan County to be heard.
21. Acts of 1870, Chapter 32, reorganized the lower equity court system of the State into twelve Chancery Districts. The Second Chancery District contained the counties of Knox, Sevier, Campbell, Union, Anderson, Roane, Monroe, Blount, Scott, Morgan, Fentress, and Christiana, if formed.
22. Acts of 1870, Chapter 47, scheduled the opening dates for the terms of the Chancery Courts in every county in the State. The Chancery Court in Roane County would commence its terms on the fourth Monday in May and November.
23. Acts of 1870 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 57, was a duplicate of Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 60, Item 20, above, which allowed the transfer of equity cases to Morgan County.
24. Acts of 1871, Chapter 92, Section 2, set the terms of the Chancery Court of Roane County to begin on the second Monday in March and September of each year, all clerks being required to make process conform to these dates.
25. Acts of 1872 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 15, Section 4, rescheduled the terms for the Chancery Courts in the Second Division which were Knox, Sevier, Union, Morgan, Fentress, Scott, Loudon, Anderson, Blount, Campbell, and Roane where the regular terms of Chancery Court would begin on the second Monday in May and November.
26. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, was a major revision of the lower court system of Tennessee. Eleven Chancery Divisions were designated in the State of which the Second Division included the counties of Knox, Campbell, Sevier, Union, Anderson, Blount, Loudon, Morgan, Scott, and Roane where the terms of the Chancery Court would start on the second Monday in May and November. This Act, plus several others, was considered by the Supreme Court in the case of *Flynn v. State*, 203 Tenn. 341, 313 S.W.2d 249 (1958).
27. Acts of 1887, Chapter 92, rescheduled the terms of the Chancery Courts in the Second Chancery Division of Tennessee. In Roane County the regular terms of the Chancery Court were to begin on the second Monday in January and July.
28. Acts of 1899, Chapter 212, abolished the Second Chancery Division in Tennessee.
29. Acts of 1899, Chapter 214, moved the counties of Sevier, Blount, and Loudon out of the Second Chancery Division and into the First Chancery Division. The Act also moved the Counties of Union, Campbell, Anderson, Knox, Roane, Morgan, and Scott out of the Second Division and into the 12th

Chancery Division which already contained the Counties of Sullivan, Hawkins, Hamblen, Grainger, Claiborne and Hancock. Court terms would continue in Roane County on the second Monday in January and July.

30. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, reorganized the entire lower judicial system in the State into ten Chancery Divisions. The Second Chancery Division was composed of the counties of Sevier, Blount, Loudon, Campbell, Anderson, Roane, Morgan, Scott, Union, Fentress, and Jefferson. Regular Chancery Court terms would begin in Roane County on the third Monday in February and August.
31. Acts of 1901, Chapter 438, reset the regular terms of the Chancery Courts in the Second Chancery Division which consisted still of those counties listed in Item 30, above. The court terms would begin in Roane County on the second Monday in June and December.
32. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 397, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 438, Section 2, Item 31, above, to provide that the Chancery Court of Campbell County would meet on the days specified in the Act and the Chancery Court terms in Roane County would begin on the first Monday in June and December.
33. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, was the next wholesale change in the lower court system in Tennessee. Fourteen Chancery Divisions were formed of which the Second Chancery Division contained the counties of Loudon, Hawkins, Claiborne, Hancock, Campbell, Anderson, Scott and Roane. The regular terms of court in Roane County would commence on the first Monday in June and December. This was the last Act of this nature to appear in the volumes of private acts. All future changes would be public acts in the form of Code Amendments.

Chancery Court - Clerk and Master

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Roane County.

1. Acts of 1824 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 14, set forth the duties of the Clerk and Master in Kingston, who would be over chancery cases in Roane, Knox, Anderson, Morgan, Rhea, Hamilton, Campbell, McMinn, Monroe and Blount Counties.
2. Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 37, amended Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77, which created the General Sessions Court of Roane County, in Section 19 by making the Circuit Court Clerk the Clerk of the General Sessions Court instead of the Clerk and Master of the County.

Circuit Court

The following acts were once applicable to the circuit court of Roane County but now have no effect, having been repealed, superseded, or having failed to win local approval.

1. Acts of 1801, Chapter 45, which created Roane County, made the new county a part of the Hamilton District, and provided for the courts to meet at the house of Alexander Carmichael in Kingston until a court house could be built or more suitable quarters found for the courts.
2. Acts of 1809, Chapter 49, divided the State into five Judicial circuits assigning the counties of Cocke, Jefferson, Sevier, Blount, Knox, Anderson, Roane, Rhea, and Bledsoe to the Second Judicial Circuit. Circuit Courts would be held twice each year in each county. The Circuit Court for Roane County would be held twice each year in each county. The Circuit Court for Roane County would begin its regular terms on the first Monday in March and September at the court house in Kingston.
3. Acts of 1817, Chapter 132, changed the opening dates of the regular circuit court terms for several counties in the Second Judicial circuit, designating the second Monday in March and September as the starting dates for the Roane County Circuit Court.
4. Acts of 1819, Chapter 72, created a Seventh Judicial Circuit in the State of Tennessee which included the counties of Roane, Rhea, Bledsoe, Marion, Hamilton, McMinn and Monroe. The Governor was obligated to appoint a Judge for the new circuit who must reside therein and who would preside over the various courts at the term times specified which in Roane County, was the second Monday in March and September.
5. Acts of 1824, Chapter 60, was the legislative authority for the Judge of the Circuit Court in Roane County to set a time at the next, or at any ensuing term of court which would be the most convenient to the parties involved for a special term of court; sufficient notice must be given which would be adequate for the preparation of the cases to be heard. The Clerks of the Court would act and abide as they would in any regular term.
6. Acts of 1827, Chapter 5, provided that the terms of the circuit court of Roane County would

commence on the second Monday in March and September as now established under the law and continue in session for two weeks, if necessary, closing before that only when the dockets were completed.

7. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 5, organized the State of Tennessee into eleven Judicial Circuits pursuant to the dictates of the newly adopted State Constitution. The Third Judicial Circuit was composed of the counties of Rhea, Meigs, Bledsoe, Marion, Hamilton, McMinn, Monroe, and Roane. Court for the circuits would hereafter be held three times annually, beginning in Roane County on the fourth Monday in February, June, and October.
8. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 41, Section 4, declared that the next term of the Circuit Court in the counties of Roane, Rhea, Bledsoe, Marion, Hamilton, McMinn, and Monroe, would take place as the same were scheduled under the law but after that term they would be held at the times stipulated in this Act which in the case of Roane County, would be the time prescribed in the Act above.
9. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 3, took Roane County out of the Third Judicial Circuit and placed it in the Second Circuit, and further fixing the opening days of the terms of court in Roane County on the fourth Monday in February, June, and October.
10. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 76, Section 3, reset the opening dates for the regular terms of the Roane County Circuit Court to the first Monday after the fourth Monday in February, June, and October of each year but the very next term of the circuit court in Roane County would commence on the fourth Monday in June as it was now slated to do.
11. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 98, formed sixteen Judicial Circuits in Tennessee. The counties assigned to the Third Judicial Circuit under the terms of this Act were Monroe, Blount, Knox, Anderson, and Roane. Court terms in the new Third Circuit remained as they were formerly established by law.
12. Acts of 1865, Chapter 14, Section 3, in an attempt to provide for the orderly administration of the Judicial system after the civil war, reset the terms of the Chancery Courts in the 8th Chancery Division of the State and required the Chancellor of that division to hold the Circuit Courts in the same counties, including Roane, by interchange.
13. Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 8, Section 2, rearranged the terms of the Circuit Court in Roane County to begin on the fourth Monday in April, August, and December in the place of the times now set under previous statutes.
14. Acts of 1870, Chapter 31, was a major revision of the lower civil court system in the State. Fifteen regular, and one special, judicial circuits were formed in Tennessee. The Third Judicial Circuit was made up of the counties of Morgan, Anderson, Knox, Monroe, Roane, Cumberland, Fentress, Blount, and Christiana, if established.
15. Acts of 1870, Chapter 46, scheduled the opening dates for the regular terms of the Circuit Courts in every county in Tennessee. Roane County's Circuit Court would take up its docket on a regular basis on the second Monday after the fourth Monday in March, July, and November.
16. Acts of 1871, Chapter 92, Section One, provided that the Circuit Court of Roane County would hereafter begin the regular terms of court on the second Monday in April, August, and December, but the next term would be observed at the date now provided by law.
17. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, in its reorganization of the entire lower judicial system of the State, established fourteen regular, and one special, judicial circuits, assigning the counties of Knox, Blount, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Scott, and Roane to the Third Judicial Circuit. Roane County's Circuit Court would begin its regular terms under the new law on the second Monday in April, August, and December.
18. Acts of 1899, Chapter 168, abolished the Third Judicial Circuit which was composed of the counties of Blount, Loudon, Roane, Morgan, Fentress, and Scott.
19. Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, Section 3, attached the counties of Blount, Loudon, and Roane to the 17th Judicial Circuit and fixed the terms of Court for those counties. In Roane County the regular terms of the Circuit Court would begin on the third Monday in March, July, and November.
20. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, was a complete overhaul of the State's lower court system, which created a total of fourteen Judicial Circuits and fixed the terms of court for those counties. In Roane County the regular terms of the Circuit Court would begin on the third Monday in March, July, and November.
21. Acts of 1901, Chapter 413, rearranged the terms of court for the same counties listed above as composing the Fourth Judicial Circuit. The terms of court in Roane County, however, would continue to commence on the third Monday in March, July, and November.

22. Acts of 1903, Chapter 354, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 413, Item 21, above, by altering the court dates for the terms of circuit court in some of the counties but did not affect the status of the circuit court in Roane County.
23. Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 204, rescheduled the terms of the circuit court for the counties of Polk and Roane in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court terms in Roane County would begin on the first Monday in March, July, and November, and all process would be made to conform to those dates.
24. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 537, rearranged the circuit court terms for the counties of McMinn, Monroe, Loudon, and Roane in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. In Roane County the circuit court would convene for its regular terms on the second Monday in April, August, and December.
25. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 218, set different times for the opening dates of the circuit court terms in Blount County, Roane County, and for the special law court in Ducktown. The Roane County Circuit Court would meet for the regular terms on the fourth Monday in March, July, and November.
26. Public Acts of 1929, Chapter 142, changed court terms for the criminal division and the civil division of the courts in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, which included the counties of Bradley, Loudon, Blount, McMinn, Polk, Monroe, and Roane whose circuit court would regularly meet on the third and fourth Monday in January, May, and September.
27. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, was the last Act of this nature appearing in the volumes of private acts. All future changes would take the form of amendments to Code Sections. Twenty Judicial Circuits were provided and this Act named the counties of Bradley, Blount, Loudon, McMinn, Polk, Monroe, and Roane as those constituting the Fourth Judicial Circuit. Court terms were set to commence in Roane County on the first Monday in March, July and November.

Circuit Court - Clerk

The following acts have no current effect, but once applied to the Roane County Circuit Court Clerk. They were repealed, superseded, or never received local approval.

1. Acts of 1903, Chapter 255, was a statewide salary act but pertained only to the circuit court clerks of the State, fixing their annual compensation according to the population of the county in which they served, according to the 1900 Federal Census. Our records would indicate an annual salary of \$1,000 for the Circuit Court Clerk of Roane County. The Clerk must file a sworn, itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, showing the total amount of fees collected in the office during the year. If the fees were less than the salary, the county must pay the difference, but, if the fees exceeded the salary, the Clerk could keep the excess as his own.
2. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 543, stated that the Circuit Court Clerk of Roane County (identified by the 1920 Federal Census figures) would be paid an annual salary of \$1,000 as compensation for his services plus all the fees and perquisites granted to them under the law. The salary would be paid to the clerk out of the county treasury on the warrant of the County Judge each quarter.
3. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 14, amended Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 543, in Sections One and Two to the effect that the annual compensation of the Circuit Court Clerk would be increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and all other terms and conditions remain as they were.
4. Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 37, amended Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77, in Section 19, by making the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Roane County the Clerk of the General Sessions Court of the county who would replace the Clerk and Master as the said Clerk.

Criminal Court

The following acts once pertained to the Roane County Criminal Court, but are no longer current law. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1915, Chapter 153, created a Criminal Court for Roane County conferring upon it the general common law and statutory jurisdiction over all criminal cases in the county and setting the terms for their court to begin on the fourth Monday in April, August, and December. The Clerk of the Circuit Court would do and perform all the duties of this court with the same compensation. The Attorney General to the Fourth Judicial Circuit was required to attend to the prosecution of cases therein. The Judge of the Criminal and Law Court for the counties of Hancock, Claiborne, Campbell, Scott, Morgan, and Anderson, would likewise hold the Criminal Court of Roane County. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 264.
2. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 413, was almost a duplicate of Public Acts of 1915, Chapter 153, except this act specified by amendment, that the Judge of the 19th Judicial Circuit would preside over this court. It must be assumed that the general repealing clause of this act negated Chapter

153, until the same was later repealed specifically.

3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 313, amended Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 413, by rewriting Section 6 to the effect that the Circuit Judge of the 19th Judicial Circuit would hereafter hold the Criminal Court of Roane County.
4. . Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 264, repealed Public Acts of 1915, Chapter 153, as that act was written, and provided further that all bonds and process outstanding in the Criminal Court would be returned to the Circuit Court of the county, the next term of which would start on the first Monday in July, 1923, unless a special term were called sooner. (It would seem that the General Assembly intended to abolish the Criminal Court created by Chapter 153, Public Acts of 1915, which was operating in Roane County, although Chapter 413, Private Acts of 1915 was not mentioned.)
5. Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 15, was an exact duplicate of Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 58, both of which created the "criminal court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit", consisting of Blount, Monroe, Roane, Loudon, McMinn, Bradley and Polk (in Benton and Ducktown) Counties.
6. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 105, fixed the dates for the opening of the regular terms for the criminal courts in the counties of Bradley, Loudon, for the Court at Ducktown, and for Roane County where the Criminal Court terms would start on the second Monday in February, June, and October.
7. Public Acts of 1929, Chapter 142, rearranged the terms of Court in the Criminal Division of the Fourth Judicial Circuit. In Roane County the terms of the Criminal Court would start on the first and second Monday in March, July and November.
8. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, re-established the Criminal Division of the Fourth Judicial Circuit which comprised the counties of Bradley, Loudon, Blount, McMinn, Polk, Monroe and Roane where the court would meet on the third Monday in January, May, and September.
9. Public Acts of 1965, Chapter 188, created the 24th Judicial Circuit and transferred the counties of Polk, McMinn, Bradley, and Monroe into that circuit, leaving Blount County, Loudon County, and Roane County in the criminal division of the Fourth Circuit. The court would continue to meet on the first Monday in March, July, and November, in Roane County.
10. Public Acts of 1978, Chapter 707, changed the time for holding criminal court in Roane County to the third Mondays in March, July, and November.
11. Public Acts of 1979, Chapter 427, changed the time for holding criminal court in Roane County to the First Mondays in January, May and September.

District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators

The following acts once affecting Roane County are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes.

1. Acts of 1817, Chapter 65, established the Sixth Judicial Circuit and set up ten solicitorial Districts across the State. The Fourth Solicitorial District contained the counties of Knox, Anderson, Morgan, Roane, and Rhea.
2. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 28, made each Solicitorial District in the future to coincide with the boundaries of each Judicial Circuit which had criminal jurisdiction.
3. Public Acts of 1971, Chapter 130, created the position of one (1) additional Assistant District Attorney General for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, which included Roane County until the trial courts were redistricted according to T.C.A. 16-2-506 (September 1, 1984). Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 687, created the position of Criminal Investigator for the Fourth Judicial Circuit and defined the powers of such investigator. These acts no longer apply to Roane County since T.C.A. 16-2-506(9) places Roane County in the Ninth Judicial District, and provides positions for four (4) Assistant District Attorneys General and one (1) Criminal Investigator for that District.

General Sessions Court

The following acts once affected the general sessions court of Roane County, but are no longer in effect and are included herein for reference purposes.

1. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77, created a General Sessions Court for Roane County. This statute is published herein with its amendments.
2. Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 218, was an exact duplicate of Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 200, as stated above, and as reproduced in the act.
3. Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 251, would have amended Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77, in

Section 3, but was rejected by the Roane County Quarterly Court and therefore never became an effective law. This act would have added a provision that, contingent upon the abolition of the office of County Judge in Roane County, the said General Sessions Court was vested with jurisdiction in all matters of Juvenile and Probate cases as the same were set forth in Sections 16-709 through 16-716, Tennessee Code Annotated.

4. Public Acts of 1979, Chapter 400, provided that in those counties not in the first, second, or third population class, and in which was located a State Mental Institution, the Judge of the General Sessions Court would be on a full time status and be compensated in like manner as the General Sessions Judges in counties of the third population class.
5. Private Acts of 1980, Chapter 290, amended Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77, as amended which created the General Sessions Court of Roane County. This act amended Section 16 to increase the salary of the Judge of the General Sessions Court from \$15,000 to \$23,900, and added a new Section 2(a) to the act to place probate and juvenile jurisdiction in the General Sessions Court and remove the same from the County Court and County Judge, if, for any reason, the County Judge was unable to preside. This Act was rejected by the Roane County Legislative Body on May 12, 1980, and therefore never became an effective law under the Home Rule Amendments to the Constitution.
6. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 323, was a variation of Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312, which amended the original 1959 Act, published herein. Chapter 323, which was not approved, did not amend Sections 7 and 14 so as to provide for separate court dockets and the setting of fees. This act was rejected by the Roane County legislative body.
7. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 372, was also an attempt to amend the 1959 Act. It differed from the Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312, in that this amendment provided that the Circuit Court Clerk, instead of the County Clerk, would serve in all matters other than juvenile in the general sessions court. This act was not approved and is thereby void.
8. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 380, was yet another variation of Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 312, to amend the 1959 Act. It provided that the County Clerk would be over juvenile cases while the Clerk and Master would be over all probate matters in general sessions. This act was also rejected.
9. Private Acts of 1995, Chapter 46, attempted to amend Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 77 and all other acts amendatory thereto, to create and establish Part II of the General Sessions Court in Roane County. This act was rejected by the Roane County legislative body.

Secretarial Assistance

The following acts are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1951, Chapter 86, established a position of Secretary to the Chancellor of the Second Chancery Division to serve at the Chancellor's pleasure and direction at an annual salary of \$1,800.
2. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 231, set up the part of Secretary to the Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit at \$2,400 per annum.
3. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 332, amended Public Acts of 1951, Chapter 86, Item One, above, by raising the annual salary of the Secretary to the Chancellor of the Second Chancery Division from \$1,800 to \$3,000.
4. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 550, provided for a Secretary to serve at the direction and pleasure of the Attorney General of the Fourth Judicial Circuit at an annual salary of \$4,800.

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