

By: Representatives Robertson, Williams

To: Appropriations

## HOUSE BILL NO. 335

1  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-33-77, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
3 TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT OF TAX LOSSES SUSTAINED BY  
4 COUNTIES BECAUSE OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION; TO AMEND SECTION  
5 27-33-79, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PROVISIONS  
6 OF THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE INCREASED REIMBURSEMENT OF TAX  
7 LOSSES SUSTAINED BY COUNTIES BECAUSE OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION SHALL  
8 BE PAID FROM MONIES DERIVED FROM TOBACCO LITIGATION; AND FOR  
9 RELATED PURPOSES.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

11 SECTION 1. Section 27-33-77, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
12 amended as follows:

13 27-33-77. (1) Beginning with the 1985 supplemental roll,  
14 and for each succeeding year's roll thereafter, the amount of tax  
15 loss to be reimbursed because of exemptions provided for in this  
16 article shall be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) each for county taxes  
17 exempted and school taxes exempted for a total of One Hundred  
18 Dollars (\$100.00) per applicant qualifying for homestead exemption  
19 under this article.

20 (2) In addition to the amount necessary to fund the  
21 reimbursement provided for in subsection (1) of this section, the  
22 following additional amounts shall be appropriated to the  
23 homestead reimbursement to the counties for tax losses because of  
24 exemptions provided for in this article:

25 (a) 1999 supplemental roll -- Five Million Dollars  
26 (\$5,000,000.00);

27 (b) 2000 supplemental roll -- Ten Million Dollars  
28 (\$10,000,000.00);

29 (c) 2001 supplemental roll -- Fifteen Million Dollars

30 (\$15,000,000.00);

31 (d) 2002 supplemental roll -- Twenty Million Dollars

32 (\$20,000,000.00);

33 (e) 2003 supplemental roll -- Twenty-five Million

34 Dollars (\$25,000,000.00);

35 (f) 2004 supplemental roll -- Thirty Million Dollars

36 (\$30,000,000.00);

37 (g) 2005 supplemental roll -- Thirty-five Million

38 Dollars (\$35,000,000.00);

39 (h) 2006 supplemental roll -- Forty Million Dollars

40 (\$40,000,000.00);

41 (i) 2007 supplemental roll -- Forty-five Million

42 Dollars (\$45,000,000.00); and

43 (j) 2008 supplemental roll and for each year's

44 succeeding roll thereafter -- Fifty Million Dollars

45 (\$50,000,000.00).

46 These amounts shall be distributed to the counties based on the

47 proportion that the number of homestead applications filed in each

48 county each year bears to the total number of homestead

49 applications filed in the state each year.

50 (3) The reimbursement received by the county shall be

51 distributed by the county treasurer to the general fund. Such

52 reimbursement may be pledged as security for any loan received by

53 the county for the purpose of capital improvements as authorized

54 under Section 57-1-303, or for the purpose of loans as authorized

55 under Section 17-24-7, or for the purpose of water systems

56 improvements as authorized under Section 41-3-16.

57 (4) Provided further, that tax losses sustained by

58 municipalities because of exemptions granted to homeowners

59 described in subsection (2) of Section 27-33-67 shall be

60 reimbursed up to the amount of the actual exemption allowed, not

61 to exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per qualified applicant.

62 SECTION 2. Section 27-33-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

63 amended as follows:

64       27-33-79. Notwithstanding the limitation imposed on  
65 reimbursement of tax losses in Section 27-33-77, no taxing unit  
66 shall be reimbursed more than one hundred six percent (106%),  
67 except as otherwise provided in this section, or less than the  
68 amount of the reimbursement made to the same taxing unit, for the  
69 next preceding year, unless such reimbursement is reduced as a  
70 result of a reduction in approved homestead applicants; however,  
71 for the 1986 calendar year, no taxing unit shall be reimbursed  
72 less than the amount of the reimbursement made to the same taxing  
73 unit for the 1985 calendar year. However, the limitation on  
74 reimbursement of tax losses imposed in this section shall not  
75 apply to the reimbursement of tax losses authorized in Section  
76 27-33-77(2).

77       SECTION 3. The money appropriated under Section 27-33-77(2)  
78 shall be paid out of any money in the State General Fund derived  
79 from claims asserted by the Attorney General on behalf of the  
80 State of Mississippi and all of its governmental agencies,  
81 departments, political subdivisions and any other state-controlled  
82 public entities against tobacco manufacturers, distributors, trade  
83 firms and such other entities in the tobacco industry which are  
84 named defendants in litigation relating to the manufacturing,  
85 marketing, packaging, distribution and sale of tobacco products,  
86 whether derived under settlement agreement or judgment rendered by  
87 a court of competent jurisdiction.

88       SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
89 and after July 1, 1999.