

By: Representatives Stringer, Warren

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 958

1
2 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-65-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
3 TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF A PERCENTAGE OF SALES TAX REVENUES
4 GENERATED FROM BUSINESS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE MUNICIPALITIES TO THE
5 COUNTIES IN WHICH SUCH BUSINESS ACTIVITIES OCCURRED; TO AMEND
6 SECTION 27-65-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO;
7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 27-65-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 **[Until July 1, 2002, this section reads as follows:]**

12 27-65-75. On or before the fifteenth day of each month, the
13 revenue collected under the provisions of this chapter during the
14 preceding month shall be paid and distributed as follows:

15 (1) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
16 thereafter through July 15, 1993, eighteen percent (18%) of the
17 total sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under
18 the provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the
19 provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3) and 27-65-21, on
20 business activities within a municipal corporation shall be
21 allocated for distribution to such municipality and paid to such
22 municipal corporation. On or before August 15, 1993, and each
23 succeeding month thereafter, eighteen and one-half percent
24 (18-1/2%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
25 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
26 collected under the provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3),
27 27-65-21, and that collected under the provisions of Section
28 27-65-17(2) and the corresponding levy in Section 27-65-23 on the
29 rental or lease of private carriers of passengers and light

30 carriers of property as defined in Sections 27-51-101, on business
31 activities within a municipal corporation shall be allocated for
32 distribution to such municipality and paid to such municipal
33 corporation.

34 A municipal corporation, for the purpose of distributing the
35 tax under this subsection, shall mean and include all incorporated
36 cities, towns and villages.

37 Monies allocated for distribution and credited to a municipal
38 corporation under this subsection may be pledged as security for
39 any loan received by the municipal corporation for the purpose of
40 capital improvements as authorized under Section 57-1-303, or
41 loans as authorized under Section 57-44-7, or water systems
42 improvements as authorized under Section 41-3-16.

43 In any county having a county seat which is not an
44 incorporated municipality, the distribution provided hereunder
45 shall be made as though the county seat was an incorporated
46 municipality; however, the distribution to such municipality shall
47 be paid to the county treasury wherein the municipality is located
48 and such funds shall be used for road, bridge and street
49 construction or maintenance therein.

50 (2) On or before September 15, 1987, and each succeeding
51 month thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter
52 during the preceding month One Million One Hundred Twenty-five
53 Thousand Dollars (\$1,125,000.00) shall be allocated for
54 distribution to municipal corporations as defined under subsection
55 (1) of this section in the proportion that the number of gallons
56 of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to consumers and
57 retailers in each such municipality during the preceding fiscal
58 year bears to the total gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold
59 by distributors to consumers and retailers in municipalities
60 statewide during the preceding fiscal year. The State Tax
61 Commission shall require all distributors of gasoline and diesel
62 fuel to report to the commission monthly the total number of
63 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by them to consumers and
64 retailers in each municipality during the preceding month. The
65 State Tax Commission shall have the authority to promulgate such
66 rules and regulations as is necessary to determine the number of
67 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to

68 consumers and retailers in each municipality. In determining the
69 percentage allocation of funds under this subsection for the
70 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and ending June 30, 1988, the
71 State Tax Commission may consider gallons of gasoline and diesel
72 fuel sold for a period of less than one (1) fiscal year. For the
73 purposes of this subsection, the term "fiscal year" means the
74 fiscal year beginning July 1 of a year.

75 (3) On or before September 15, 1987, and on or before the
76 fifteenth day of each succeeding month, until the date specified
77 in Section 65-39-35, the proceeds derived from contractors' taxes
78 levied under Section 27-65-21 on contracts for the construction or
79 reconstruction of highways designated under the Four-Lane Highway
80 Program created under Section 65-3-97 shall be deposited into the
81 State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be used
82 to fund such Four-Lane Highway Program. The Mississippi
83 Department of Transportation shall provide to the State Tax
84 Commission such information as is necessary to determine the
85 amount of proceeds to be distributed under this subsection.

86 (4) On or before August 15, 1994, and on or before the
87 fifteenth day of each succeeding month, from the proceeds of
88 gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes as provided in Section
89 27-5-101(a)(ii)1, Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) shall be
90 deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of a special fund
91 designated as the "State Aid Road Fund," created by Section
92 65-9-17. Such funds shall be pledged to pay the principal of and
93 interest on state aid road bonds heretofore issued under Sections
94 19-9-51 through 19-9-77, in lieu of and in substitution for the
95 funds heretofore allocated to counties under this section. Such
96 funds may not be pledged for the payment of any state aid road
97 bonds issued after April 1, 1981; however, this prohibition
98 against the pledging of any such funds for the payment of bonds
99 shall not apply to any bonds for which intent to issue such bonds
100 has been published, for the first time, as provided by law prior
101 to March 29, 1981. From the amount of taxes paid into the special

102 fund pursuant to this subsection and subsection (9) of this
103 section, there shall be first deducted and paid the amount
104 necessary to pay the expenses of the Office of State Aid Road
105 Construction, as authorized by the Legislature for all other
106 general and special fund agencies. The remainder of the fund
107 shall be allocated monthly to the several counties in accordance
108 with the following formula:

109 (a) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to all counties
110 in equal shares;

111 (b) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties
112 based on the proportion that the total number of rural road miles
113 in a county bears to the total number of rural road miles in all
114 counties of the state; and

115 (c) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties
116 based on the proportion that the rural population of the county
117 bears to the total rural population in all counties of the state,
118 according to the latest federal decennial census.

119 For the purposes of this subsection, the term "gasoline,
120 diesel fuel or kerosene taxes" means such taxes as defined in
121 paragraph (f) of Section 27-5-101.

122 The amount of funds allocated to any county under this
123 subsection for any fiscal year after fiscal year 1994 shall not be
124 less than the amount allocated to such county for fiscal year
125 1994. Monies allocated to a county from the State Aid Road Fund
126 for fiscal year 1995 or any fiscal year thereafter that exceed the
127 amount of funds allocated to that county from the State Aid Road
128 Fund for fiscal year 1994, first must be expended by the county
129 for replacement or rehabilitation of bridges on the state aid road
130 system that have a sufficiency rating of less than twenty-five
131 (25), according to National Bridge Inspection standards before
132 such monies may be approved for expenditure by the State Aid Road
133 Engineer on other projects that qualify for the use of state aid
134 road funds.

135 Any reference in the general laws of this state or the

136 Mississippi Code of 1972 to Section 27-5-105 shall mean and be
137 construed to refer and apply to subsection (4) of Section
138 27-65-75.

139 (5) One Million Six Hundred Sixty-six Thousand Six Hundred
140 Sixty-six Dollars (\$1,666,666.00) each month shall be paid into
141 the special fund known as the "State Public School Building Fund"
142 created and existing under the provisions of Sections 37-47-1
143 through 37-47-67. Such payments into said fund are to be made on
144 the last day of each succeeding month hereafter.

145 (6) An amount each month beginning August 15, 1983, through
146 November 15, 1986, as specified in Section 6 of Chapter 542, Laws
147 of 1983, shall be paid into the special fund known as the
148 Correctional Facilities Construction Fund created in Section 6 of
149 Chapter 542, Laws of 1983.

150 (7) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
151 thereafter, two and two hundred sixty-six one-thousandths percent
152 (2.266%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
153 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
154 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) shall be
155 deposited by the commission into the School Ad Valorem Tax
156 Reduction Fund created pursuant to Section 37-61-35.

157 (8) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
158 thereafter, nine and seventy-three one-thousandths percent
159 (9.073%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
160 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
161 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) shall be
162 deposited into the Education Enhancement Fund created pursuant to
163 Section 37-61-33.

164 (9) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month
165 thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter during
166 the preceding month, Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
167 (\$250,000.00) shall be paid into the State Aid Road Fund.

168 (10) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month
169 thereafter through August 15, 1995, from the revenue collected

170 under this chapter during the preceding month, Two Million Dollars
171 (\$2,000,000.00) shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Ad
172 Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

173 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
174 the contrary, on or before February 15, 1995, and each succeeding
175 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
176 preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) and
177 the corresponding levy in Section 27-65-23 on the rental or lease
178 of private carriers of passengers and light carriers of property
179 as defined in Section 27-51-101 shall be deposited, without
180 diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund
181 established in Section 27-51-105.

182 (12) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
183 the contrary, on or before August 15, 1995, and each succeeding
184 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
185 preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(1) on
186 retail sales of private carriers of passengers and light carriers
187 of property, as defined in Section 27-51-101 and the corresponding
188 levy in Section 27-65-23 on the rental or lease of these vehicles,
189 shall be deposited, after diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad
190 Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

191 (13) On or before July 15, 1994, and on or before the
192 fifteenth day of each succeeding month thereafter, that portion of
193 the avails of the tax imposed in Section 27-65-22, which is
194 derived from activities held on the Mississippi state fairgrounds
195 complex, shall be paid into a special fund hereby created in the
196 State Treasury and shall be expended pursuant to legislative
197 appropriations solely to defray the costs of repairs and
198 renovation at such Trade Mart and Coliseum.

199 (14) On or before August 15, 1998, and each succeeding month
200 thereafter through July 15, 2005, that portion of the avails of
201 the tax imposed in Section 27-65-23 which is derived from sales by
202 cotton compresses or cotton warehouses and which would otherwise
203 be paid into the General Fund, shall be deposited in an amount not

204 to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) into the special
205 fund created pursuant to Section 69-37-39.

206 (15) On or before August 15, 1999, and each succeeding month
207 thereafter, eighteen and one-half percent (18-1/2%) of the total
208 sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the
209 provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the
210 provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3), 27-65-21, and that
211 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) and the
212 corresponding levy in Section 27-65-23 on the rental or lease of
213 private carriers of passengers and light carriers of property as
214 defined in Section 27-51-101, on business activities within a
215 county but outside any municipal corporation, as defined in
216 subsection (1) of this section, shall be allocated for
217 distribution and paid to the county in which the business activity
218 occurred. The amount paid to each county under this subsection
219 shall be in addition to any other funds allocated for distribution
220 to the various counties under this section.

221 (16) The remainder of the amounts collected under the
222 provisions of this chapter shall be paid into the State Treasury
223 to the credit of the General Fund.

224 (17) It shall be the duty of the municipal officials of any
225 municipality which expands its limits, or of any community which
226 incorporates as a municipality, to notify the commissioner of such
227 action thirty (30) days before the effective date. Failure to so
228 notify the commissioner shall cause such municipality to forfeit
229 the revenue which it would have been entitled to receive during
230 this period of time when the commissioner had no knowledge of the
231 action. If any funds have been erroneously disbursed to any
232 municipality or county or any overpayment of tax is recovered by
233 the taxpayer, the commissioner may make correction and adjust the
234 error or overpayment with such municipality or county by
235 withholding the necessary funds from any subsequent payment to be
236 made to the municipality or county.

237 **[From and after July 1, 2002, this section reads as follows:]**

238 27-65-75. On or before the fifteenth day of each month, the
239 revenue collected under the provisions of this chapter during the
240 preceding month shall be paid and distributed as follows:

241 (1) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
242 thereafter through July 15, 1993, eighteen percent (18%) of the
243 total sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under
244 the provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the
245 provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3) and 27-65-21, on
246 business activities within a municipal corporation shall be
247 allocated for distribution to such municipality and paid to such
248 municipal corporation. On or before August 15, 1993, and each
249 succeeding month thereafter, eighteen and one-half percent
250 (18-1/2%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
251 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
252 collected under the provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-17(2),
253 27-65-19(3) and 27-65-21, on business activities within a
254 municipal corporation shall be allocated for distribution to such
255 municipality and paid to such municipal corporation.

256 A municipal corporation, for the purpose of distributing the
257 tax under this subsection, shall mean and include all incorporated
258 cities, towns and villages.

259 Monies allocated for distribution and credited to a municipal
260 corporation under this subsection may be pledged as security for
261 any loan received by the municipal corporation for the purpose of
262 capital improvements as authorized under Section 57-1-303, or
263 loans as authorized under Section 57-44-7, or water systems
264 improvements as authorized under Section 41-3-16.

265 In any county having a county seat which is not an
266 incorporated municipality, the distribution provided hereunder
267 shall be made as though the county seat was an incorporated
268 municipality; however, the distribution to such municipality shall
269 be paid to the county treasury wherein the municipality is located
270 and such funds shall be used for road, bridge and street
271 construction or maintenance therein.

272 (2) On or before September 15, 1987, and each succeeding
273 month thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter
274 during the preceding month One Million One Hundred Twenty-five
275 Thousand Dollars (\$1,125,000.00) shall be allocated for
276 distribution to municipal corporations as defined under subsection
277 (1) of this section in the proportion that the number of gallons
278 of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to consumers and
279 retailers in each such municipality during the preceding fiscal
280 year bears to the total gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold
281 by distributors to consumers and retailers in municipalities
282 statewide during the preceding fiscal year. The State Tax
283 Commission shall require all distributors of gasoline and diesel
284 fuel to report to the commission monthly the total number of
285 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by them to consumers and
286 retailers in each municipality during the preceding month. The
287 State Tax Commission shall have the authority to promulgate such
288 rules and regulations as is necessary to determine the number of
289 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to
290 consumers and retailers in each municipality. In determining the
291 percentage allocation of funds under this subsection for the
292 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and ending June 30, 1988, the
293 State Tax Commission may consider gallons of gasoline and diesel
294 fuel sold for a period of less than one (1) fiscal year. For the
295 purposes of this subsection, the term "fiscal year" means the
296 fiscal year beginning July 1 of a year.

297 (3) On or before September 15, 1987, and on or before the
298 fifteenth day of each succeeding month, until the date specified
299 in Section 65-39-35, the proceeds derived from contractors' taxes
300 levied under Section 27-65-21 on contracts for the construction or
301 reconstruction of highways designated under the Four-Lane Highway
302 Program created under Section 65-3-97 shall be deposited into the
303 State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be used
304 to fund such Four-Lane Highway Program. The Mississippi
305 Department of Transportation shall provide to the State Tax

306 Commission such information as is necessary to determine the
307 amount of proceeds to be distributed under this subsection.

308 (4) On or before August 15, 1994, and on or before the
309 fifteenth day of each succeeding month, from the proceeds of
310 gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes as provided in Section
311 27-5-101(a)(ii)1, Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) shall be
312 deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of a special fund
313 designated as the "State Aid Road Fund," created by Section
314 65-9-17. Such funds shall be pledged to pay the principal of and
315 interest on state aid road bonds heretofore issued under Sections
316 19-9-51 through 19-9-77, in lieu of and in substitution for the
317 funds heretofore allocated to counties under this section. Such
318 funds may not be pledged for the payment of any state aid road
319 bonds issued after April 1, 1981; however, this prohibition
320 against the pledging of any such funds for the payment of bonds
321 shall not apply to any bonds for which intent to issue such bonds
322 has been published, for the first time, as provided by law prior
323 to March 29, 1981. From the amount of taxes paid into the special
324 fund pursuant to this subsection and subsection (9) of this
325 section, there shall be first deducted and paid the amount
326 necessary to pay the expenses of the Office of State Aid Road
327 Construction, as authorized by the Legislature for all other
328 general and special fund agencies. The remainder of the fund
329 shall be allocated monthly to the several counties in accordance
330 with the following formula:

331 (a) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to all counties
332 in equal shares;

333 (b) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties
334 based on the proportion that the total number of rural road miles
335 in a county bears to the total number of rural road miles in all
336 counties of the state; and

337 (c) One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties
338 based on the proportion that the rural population of the county
339 bears to the total rural population in all counties of the state,

340 according to the latest federal decennial census.

341 For the purposes of this subsection, the term "gasoline,
342 diesel fuel or kerosene taxes" means such taxes as defined in
343 paragraph (f) of Section 27-5-101.

344 The amount of funds allocated to any county under this
345 subsection for any fiscal year after fiscal year 1994 shall not be
346 less than the amount allocated to such county for fiscal year
347 1994. Monies allocated to a county from the State Aid Road Fund
348 for fiscal year 1995 or any fiscal year thereafter that exceed the
349 amount of funds allocated to that county from the State Aid Road
350 Fund for fiscal year 1994, first must be expended by the county
351 for replacement or rehabilitation of bridges on the state aid road
352 system that have a sufficiency rating of less than twenty-five
353 (25), according to National Bridge Inspection standards before
354 such monies may be approved for expenditure by the State Aid Road
355 Engineer on other projects that qualify for the use of state aid
356 road funds.

357 Any reference in the general laws of this state or the
358 Mississippi Code of 1972 to Section 27-5-105 shall mean and be
359 construed to refer and apply to subsection (4) of Section
360 27-65-75.

361 (5) One Million Six Hundred Sixty-six Thousand Six Hundred
362 Sixty-six Dollars (\$1,666,666.00) each month shall be paid into
363 the special fund known as the "State Public School Building Fund"
364 created and existing under the provisions of Sections 37-47-1
365 through 37-47-67. Such payments into said fund are to be made on
366 the last day of each succeeding month hereafter.

367 (6) An amount each month beginning August 15, 1983, through
368 November 15, 1986, as specified in Section 6 of Chapter 542, Laws
369 of 1983, shall be paid into the special fund known as the
370 Correctional Facilities Construction Fund created in Section 6 of
371 Chapter 542, Laws of 1983.

372 (7) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
373 thereafter, two and two hundred sixty-six one-thousandths percent

374 (2.266%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
375 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
376 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2), not to
377 exceed the fiscal year 1997 appropriated level shall be deposited
378 by the commission into the School Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund
379 created pursuant to Section 37-61-35, with the balance to be
380 transferred to the Education Enhancement Fund created under
381 Section 37-61-33 for appropriation by the Legislature as other
382 education needs and not subject to the percentage set asides set
383 forth in Section 37-61-33.

384 (8) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
385 thereafter, nine and seventy-three one-thousandths percent
386 (9.073%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the
387 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that
388 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) shall be
389 deposited into the Education Enhancement Fund created pursuant to
390 Section 37-61-33.

391 (9) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month
392 thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter during
393 the preceding month, Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
394 (\$250,000.00) shall be paid into the State Aid Road Fund.

395 (10) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month
396 thereafter through August 15, 1995, from the revenue collected
397 under this chapter during the preceding month, Two Million Dollars
398 (\$2,000,000.00) shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Ad
399 Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

400 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
401 the contrary, on or before February 15, 1995, and each succeeding
402 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
403 preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) shall
404 be deposited, without diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem
405 Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

406 (12) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
407 the contrary, on or before August 15, 1995, and each succeeding

408 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
409 preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(1) on
410 retail sales of private carriers of passengers and light carriers
411 of property, as defined in Section 27-51-101, shall be deposited,
412 after diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax Reduction
413 Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

414 (13) On or before July 15, 1994, and on or before the
415 fifteenth day of each succeeding month thereafter, that portion of
416 the avails of the tax imposed in Section 27-65-22, which is
417 derived from activities held on the Mississippi state fairgrounds
418 complex, shall be paid into a special fund hereby created in the
419 State Treasury and shall be expended pursuant to legislative
420 appropriations solely to defray the costs of repairs and
421 renovation at such Trade Mart and Coliseum.

422 (14) On or before August 15, 1998, and each succeeding month
423 thereafter through July 15, 2005, that portion of the avails of
424 the tax imposed in Section 27-65-23 which is derived from sales by
425 cotton compresses or cotton warehouses and which would otherwise
426 be paid into the General Fund, shall be deposited in an amount not
427 to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) into the special
428 fund created pursuant to Section 69-37-39.

429 (15) On or before August 15, 1999, and each succeeding month
430 thereafter, eighteen and one-half percent (18-1/2%) of the total
431 sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the
432 provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the
433 provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-17(2), 27-65-19(3) and
434 27-65-21, on business activities within a county but outside any
435 municipal corporation, as defined in subsection (1) of this
436 section, shall be allocated for distribution and paid to the
437 county in which the business activity occurred. The amount paid
438 to each county under this subsection shall be in addition to any
439 other funds allocated for distribution to the various counties
440 under this section.

441 (16) The remainder of the amounts collected under the

442 provisions of this chapter shall be paid into the State Treasury
443 to the credit of the General Fund.

444 (17) It shall be the duty of the municipal officials of any
445 municipality which expands its limits, or of any community which
446 incorporates as a municipality, to notify the commissioner of such
447 action thirty (30) days before the effective date. Failure to so
448 notify the commissioner shall cause such municipality to forfeit
449 the revenue which it would have been entitled to receive during
450 this period of time when the commissioner had no knowledge of the
451 action. If any funds have been erroneously disbursed to any
452 municipality or county or any overpayment of tax is recovered by
453 the taxpayer, the commissioner may make correction and adjust the
454 error or overpayment with such municipality or county by
455 withholding the necessary funds from any subsequent payment to be
456 made to the municipality or county.

457 SECTION 2. Section 27-65-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
458 amended as follows:

459 27-65-53. If the commissioner finds that the taxpayer has
460 overpaid his tax for any reason and the taxpayer has discontinued
461 business and there is no subsequent liability upon which the
462 excess may be credited, or if the amount of the excess so paid
463 shall exceed the estimated liability for the next twelve (12)
464 months, the excess shall be refunded to the taxpayer. Such amount
465 shall be certified to the State Auditor of Public Accounts by the
466 commission. The * * * auditor may make such investigation and
467 audit of the claim as he finds necessary. If he finds that the
468 commissioner is correct in his determination, the auditor may
469 issue his warrant to the State Treasurer in favor of the taxpayer
470 for the amount of tax erroneously paid into the State Treasury,
471 such refunds to be made from current sales tax collections. If
472 part of the overpayment has been disbursed to any municipality or
473 county, under authority of Section 27-65-75, the municipality or
474 county, as the case may be, having erroneously received the money,
475 shall adjust the amount with the commissioner, or the overpayment

476 may be withheld by the state from any funds due by the state to
477 the municipality or county.

478 * * * Where the taxpayer has overpaid his tax, the
479 commissioner may give credit for same and allow the taxpayer to
480 take credit on a subsequent return or, if necessary, in his
481 discretion, have the taxpayer file for a refund as provided
482 herein.

483 If any overpayment of tax as reflected in an application or
484 amended return, or both, filed by the taxpayer, and verified by
485 the commissioner or otherwise determined to be due by the
486 commissioner or commission, is not refunded or credited to a
487 taxpayer's account within ninety (90) days after the application
488 or amended return is filed or the date the commission or
489 commissioner determines a refund is due, whichever is later,
490 interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month shall be
491 allowed on such overpayment computed for the period after
492 expiration of the ninety-day period provided herein to the date of
493 payment.

494 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
495 and after July 1, 1999.