

By: Pierce

To: County Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 537  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 19-5-93, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ANY COUNTY, IN ITS  
3 DISCRETION, TO DONATE MONEY TO THE SALVATION ARMY AND TO THE BOYS  
4 AND GIRLS CLUB; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 19-5-93, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:[JWB1]

8 19-5-93. The board of supervisors of each county is hereby  
9 authorized, in its discretion, to donate money for the objects and  
10 purposes following, to wit:

11 (a) **Confederate graves.** For the location, marking,  
12 care and maintenance of the grave or graves and graveyard of  
13 Confederate soldiers or sailors who died in the Confederate  
14 service, and the purchase, if necessary, of the land on which any  
15 of the said graveyards may be situated, and the erection and  
16 maintenance of appropriate monuments and appropriate inscriptions  
17 thereon. In the exercise of this power the board is fully  
18 authorized to accept donations of land on which any of said  
19 graveyards may be situated and also money or funds to be used for  
20 any of the purposes in this section expressed.

21 Any board of supervisors may, in its discretion, contribute  
22 money to be used for the upkeep of graves of the Confederate dead  
23 in its county.

24 (b) **Care of the aged.** For the support and maintenance  
25 of such residents of the county who are worthy indigent aged  
26 inmates of the Old Ladies' Home of Jackson, Mississippi, or of the  
27 Golden Age Nursing Home and Hospital for North Mississippi of

28 Greenwood, Mississippi, and not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars  
29 (\$500.00) per annum for the support of the county's inmates of the  
30 Old Men's Home, located near Jackson, Mississippi, and in addition  
31 thereto a sum not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per  
32 annum to each of said institutions for their support and  
33 maintenance in the care of the aged.

34 (c) **King's Daughters.** To the King's Daughters in their  
35 respective counties for charities under their supervision.

36 (d) **Travelers Aid Society.** A sum of money not  
37 exceeding Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per month for the support of  
38 the organization known as the Travelers Aid Society, provided the  
39 same is nonsectarian.

40 (e) **Hospitals for pellagra sufferers.** For the  
41 establishment and maintenance of a hospital for the treatment of  
42 persons afflicted with pellagra. For this purpose the board may  
43 issue bonds and incur such indebtedness within the limits now  
44 authorized by law.

45 (f) **Tubercular hospitals.** For the establishment and  
46 maintenance of a hospital for the care and treatment of persons  
47 suffering from tuberculosis. In the execution of this power the  
48 board may select trustees to establish and operate said hospital.  
49 In counties having a population of more than forty thousand  
50 (40,000) people, as shown by the latest United States census, the  
51 board may set aside, appropriate and expend moneys from the  
52 general fund for the purpose of aiding in the maintenance and  
53 support of hospitals maintained and operated in such county for  
54 the care and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis.  
55 The moneys shall be expended by the board through such trustees,  
56 not less than three (3) and not more than five (5), to be elected  
57 by the board of supervisors annually. The trustees shall file  
58 reports with the board at least once every six (6) months showing  
59 in detail all expenditures made by them and the number of patients  
60 which have been for the preceding period aided or cared for by the  
61 institution, and the board may otherwise require a strict  
62 accounting of the administration of said funds.

63 (g) **Same -- additional provisions.** The boards of  
64 supervisors of one or more counties are hereby authorized and

65 empowered, in their discretion, separately or jointly, to acquire  
66 by gift, purchase or lease, real estate, for tubercular hospital  
67 purposes, and to own, erect, build, establish, maintain, regulate  
68 and support a tubercular hospital and to remodel buildings on such  
69 property to be used for such hospital purposes.

70 In the event the boards of supervisors of two (2) or more  
71 counties agree to cooperate in establishing and maintaining such  
72 hospital, the board of supervisors of each of said counties shall  
73 adopt a resolution agreeing to the proportionate part each county  
74 will contribute to the establishment and maintaining of such  
75 hospital.

76 Each county operating under the provisions of this subsection  
77 is hereby authorized and empowered to set aside, appropriate and  
78 expend moneys from the general fund for the purpose of erecting,  
79 maintaining and operating such hospital.

80 (h) **Charity wards in hospitals.** A sum of money not  
81 exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month to maintain a  
82 charity ward or wards in any hospital in their respective  
83 counties, or in the event there shall be no hospital in such  
84 county, then a like sum, in their discretion, to maintain a  
85 charity ward or wards in any hospital in any adjoining county  
86 receiving and treating patients from such county having no  
87 hospital.

88 (i) **Same -- coast counties.** The several counties of  
89 this state bordering on the tidewater of the Gulf of Mexico are  
90 hereby authorized and empowered, in the discretion of the proper  
91 authorities thereof, to appropriate such a sum of money as said  
92 authorities shall deem reasonable, to provide and maintain a  
93 charity ward or wards, in any of the hospitals in said counties,  
94 or, in the discretion of said authorities, to make and enter into  
95 contracts with any such hospitals for the treatment and care in  
96 such hospitals of the indigent sick of said counties, and to pay  
97 therefor out of the general fund of such counties such sum or sums

98 as shall be a reasonable and just compensation to said hospital.  
99 However, the board of supervisors of any county mentioned herein  
100 may, in its discretion, make and enter into contracts with any  
101 hospital in any adjoining county receiving and treating patients  
102 from the respective counties mentioned herein in such hospitals of  
103 the indigent sick of said counties, mentioned herein, and to pay  
104 therefor out of the general fund of such county, such sum or sums  
105 that shall be reasonable and just to said hospitals.

106 (j) **Public libraries.** A sum not to exceed One Thousand  
107 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per annum toward the support and maintenance  
108 of one or more public libraries situated in the county. In any  
109 county whose total assessed valuation, including railroads and all  
110 public utilities, is more than Eighteen Million Dollars  
111 (\$18,000,000.00) the board, in its discretion, may appropriate a  
112 sum not to exceed Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) per annum for  
113 public libraries.

114 The board may also give or donate any legislative journals,  
115 constitutional convention journals, printed official reports of  
116 any state or county officers, official reports of departments,  
117 bureaus or officers of the United States, and copies of the acts  
118 of the Legislature or laws of Mississippi now or hereafter in the  
119 county library of such county and not needed, in the opinion of  
120 the board in the county library (but not including any Mississippi  
121 reports and not including any acts of the Legislature or laws of  
122 the state, unless such acts or laws be more than twenty (20) years  
123 old) to any library or library association or foundation or  
124 organization maintaining a free public library for reference or  
125 otherwise, provided such library, association, foundation or  
126 organization owns free from encumbrance a fireproof library  
127 building located in this state, in which building said journals,  
128 reports, acts and laws may be and shall be deposited where  
129 received under this subsection and made accessible under  
130 reasonable regulations to the general public. Such library,

131 association, foundation or organization shall not have the right  
132 to sell or otherwise dispose of said journals, reports, acts and  
133 laws. Said journals, reports, acts and laws may be returned to  
134 the county library from which received without expense to the  
135 county, or to the state library, without expense to the state, at  
136 any time by the library, association, foundation or organization  
137 receiving the same.

138 Any gift or donation made by the board of supervisors of any  
139 county under the authority of this subsection shall be evidenced  
140 by an order spread upon the minutes of said board. The county  
141 shall bear no expense in connection with any donation. The  
142 sheriff of the county, or the custodian of the county library,  
143 shall deliver to the representative of the library, association,  
144 foundation or organization entitled to receive the same any of  
145 said journals, reports, acts, laws and official publications in  
146 accordance with the directions contained in any order of the board  
147 of supervisors for the delivery of the same, and shall take proper  
148 receipt from the party receiving the same, and shall deliver such  
149 receipt to the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county,  
150 and the board of supervisors shall have the said receipt entered  
151 in full on the minutes of the board.

152 Any library, association, foundation or organization  
153 receiving any gift or donation from any county under this  
154 subsection shall report in writing to the board of supervisors,  
155 from which such gifts or donations have been received every two  
156 (2) years, that the gifts and donations so received are still in  
157 the possession of the donee and are accessible to the general  
158 public. If any of the gifts or donations so received have been  
159 lost, destroyed or have otherwise disappeared, report thereof  
160 shall be made.

161 If any library, association, foundation or organization  
162 receiving gifts or donations under this subsection shall cease  
163 operating as a free public library or shall cease to be the owner

164 of a fireproof building in which it keeps and maintains a free  
165 public library, for reference or otherwise, the said library,  
166 association, foundation or organization shall thereupon  
167 immediately return to the county library, without expense to the  
168 county, or to the state library, without expense to the state, any  
169 gifts or donations it may have received under this subsection.

170           (k) **Patriotic organizations and memorials.** A sum not  
171 to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to build or aid any  
172 post of the American Legion, any chapter of the Daughters of the  
173 American Revolution, any chapter of the United Daughters of the  
174 Confederacy, or any post, unit or chapter of any patriotic  
175 organization within the county in building a memorial to the  
176 veterans of World War I and World War II; and a sum not to exceed  
177 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to aid in defraying the cost of  
178 the erection of suitable memorials to deceased soldiers, sailors  
179 and marines of the late world wars. Such appropriation may be  
180 made, even though no provision has been made therefor in the  
181 county budget.

182           (l) **American Red Cross.** Any board of supervisors of  
183 any county in this state is hereby authorized and empowered, in  
184 its discretion, to donate annually, out of any moneys in its  
185 respective treasury, to be drawn by warrant thereon, a sum not  
186 exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per million of assessed  
187 valuation to the support of a local chapter of the American Red  
188 Cross.

189           (m) **St. Jude Hospital.** For the payment of mileage  
190 expense for transporting persons to St. Jude Hospital in Memphis,  
191 Tennessee, for treatment. The mileage shall be based on a  
192 round-trip basis from the patient's place of residence to St. Jude  
193 Hospital at the mileage rate set forth in Section 25-3-41.

194           (n) **Public museums.** For the support and maintenance of  
195 such public museums located in the county constituted under the  
196 provisions of Chapter 9, Title 39, Mississippi Code of 1972.

197           (o) **Domestic violence shelters.** The board of  
198 supervisors of any county in this state is hereby authorized and  
199 empowered, in its discretion, to donate annually out of any money  
200 in the county treasury, such sums as the board deems advisable to  
201 support any domestic violence shelter or rape crisis center  
202 operating within or serving its area. For the purposes of this  
203 section, "rape crisis center" means a place established to provide  
204 care, counseling and related services to victims of rape,  
205 attempted rape, sexual battery or attempted sexual battery.

206           (p) **Literacy programs.** The board of supervisors of any  
207 county in this state is hereby authorized and empowered, in its  
208 discretion, to donate out of the general fund of the county such  
209 sum of money as the board deems reasonable to any literacy program  
210 being conducted within the county.

211           (q) **Care of neglected children.** The board of  
212 supervisors of any county in this state, in its discretion, may  
213 donate annually out of any money in the county treasury such sums  
214 as the board deems advisable to support any residential group home  
215 for the abused, abandoned or neglected children which operates  
216 within or serves the county. For the purposes of this paragraph  
217 the term "residential group home" means a group residence  
218 established to provide care and counseling, and to serve as a  
219 home, for children who are the victims of abuse, neglect or  
220 abandonment.

221           (r) **Salvation Army.** The board of supervisors of any  
222 county in this state, in its discretion, may donate annually out  
223 of any money in the county treasury such sums as the board deems  
224 advisable to support the Salvation Army.

225           (s) **Boys and Girls Club.** The board of supervisors of  
226 any county in this state, in its discretion, may donate annually  
227 out of any money in the county treasury such sums as the board  
228 deems advisable to support the Boys and Girls Club.

229           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from

230 and after its passage.