

By: Hewes

To: Ports and Marine
Resources

SENATE BILL NO. 2296

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE CERTAIN CONDITIONS FOR USE OF TIDELANDS TRUST FUNDS BY
3 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 29-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:[CRG1]

7 29-15-9. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
8 special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Fund."
9 The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State as
10 trustee.

11 Any funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and
12 submerged lands, except those funds derived from mineral leases,
13 or funds heretofore specifically designated to be applied to other
14 agencies, shall be transferred to the special fund. However,
15 funds derived from lease rentals may be used to cover the
16 administrative cost incurred by the Secretary of State. Any
17 remaining funds derived from lease rentals shall be disbursed pro
18 rata to the local taxing authorities for the replacement of lost
19 ad valorem taxes, if any. Then, any remaining funds shall be
20 disbursed to the commission for new and extra programs of
21 tidelands management, such as conservation, reclamation,

22 preservation, acquisition, education or the enhancement of public
23 access to the public trust tidelands or public improvement
24 projects as they relate to such lands. To receive funds for a
25 project, a local governmental entity must meet the following
26 conditions:

27 (a) Provide twenty-five percent (25%) of the cost of
28 the project; and

29 (b) Complete the project within two (2) years in order
30 to be eligible for funds for other projects.

31 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
32 and after July 1, 2000.