

By: Furniss

To: Highways and
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2979

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 65-39-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCLUDE A SEGMENT OF HIGHWAY IN COAHOMA COUNTY IN THE GAMING
3 COUNTIES STATE-ASSISTED INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 65-39-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:[WAN1]

8 65-39-1. (1) The Mississippi Transportation Commission is
9 authorized, subject to the availability of funds in the Gaming
10 Counties State-Assisted Infrastructure Fund created in Section
11 65-39-17, to conduct feasibility studies and, pursuant to
12 information gathered in such studies, select routes and locations,
13 perform preliminary engineering, acquire necessary right-of-way
14 and property, construct and/or reconstruct and improve existing or
15 new highways, roads, streets and bridges, including two-lane,
16 four-lane and multi-lane roads (or segments thereof), perform
17 intersection improvements, provide signal retiring, turnbay
18 extensions, additional interchanges and other traffic
19 modifications, within and approaching those counties in this state
20 where legal gaming is being conducted or is authorized. Any
21 highway, road, street or bridge that is authorized to be
22 constructed, reconstructed or improved shall meet design standards
23 established by the Mississippi Department of Transportation, shall
24 be constructed to bear a load limit of at least eighty thousand
25 (80,000) pounds and, upon completion, shall become a part of the
26 state highway system, and thereafter shall be under the
27 jurisdiction of the Mississippi Transportation Commission and the

28 Mississippi Department of Transportation for construction and
29 maintenance.

30 (2) The projects authorized in subsection (1) of this
31 section shall include, but shall not be limited to, highways,
32 roads, streets and bridges on and along the following locations:

33 (a) U.S. Highway 90 from its intersection with
34 Mississippi 607 in Hancock County to Ocean Springs, and including
35 Lakeshore Road in Hancock County from its intersection with U.S.
36 Highway 90 to Beach Boulevard;

37 (b) Mississippi 4 from U.S. Highway 61 to Mississippi
38 3;

39 (c) Mississippi 4 from Mississippi 3 to Senatobia;

40 (d) Lorraine Cowan Road from U.S. Highway 90 to I-10;

41 (e) U.S. Highway 49 from U.S. Highway 90 to I-10 in
42 Gulfport;

43 (f) Mississippi 304 beginning at the Tennessee State
44 Line at or near U.S. 72 and thence running in a southwesterly
45 direction to intersect with U.S. 78 at or near Byhalia and thence
46 running in a westerly direction to intersect I-55 at or near
47 Hernando and thence running in a westerly direction to intersect
48 with U.S. 61 in DeSoto County, with a spur extending southwesterly
49 to or near Robinsonville in Tunica County;

50 (g) I-10 from Exit 28 to Exit 57;

51 (h) A new location from the northernmost point on I-110
52 to U.S. 49;

53 (i) U.S. Highway 61 from the Tunica County line to the
54 Tennessee state line;

55 (j) (i) Four-lanes for traffic along Mississippi 16
56 beginning at its intersection with Mississippi 25 and extending
57 easterly to join the existing four-lane on the west side of
58 Carthage within the corporate boundaries;

59 (ii) Passing lanes and turn lanes, as needed,
60 along Mississippi 16 beginning at a point on the east side of
61 Carthage within the corporate boundaries where the existing
62 four-lane ends and extending easterly to the Leake/Neshoba county
63 line; and

64 (iii) Four-lanes for traffic along Mississippi 16

65 beginning at the Leake/Neshoba county line and extending easterly
66 to not more than ten (10) miles east of Mississippi 15;

67 (k) Lorraine Cowan Road Extension from I-10 North to
68 relocated/reconstructed Mississippi 67;

69 (l) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 82
70 and Mississippi 1 in the City of Greenville;

71 (m) At various locations on and along I-20, U.S.
72 Highway 61 and U.S. Highway 80 in the City of Vicksburg, including
73 a truck route from Harbor Industrial Park to U.S. Highway 61 north
74 and an extension of South Frontage Road with railroad bridge to
75 Interstate Highway 20;

76 (n) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 61,
77 U.S. Highway 65 and Washington Street in the City of Natchez;

78 (o) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 90
79 in the City of Pass Christian;

80 (p) Mississippi 43/603 beginning where the existing
81 four-lane ends north of I-10 and extending northerly to a point
82 approximately one (1) mile north of Kiln where Mississippi 43/603
83 divides into Mississippi 43 and Mississippi 603;

84 (q) Mississippi 43 beginning where Mississippi 43 and
85 Mississippi 603 divide and extending northwesterly to or near
86 Picayune;

87 (r) U.S. 49 from U.S. 61 west to the Mississippi River
88 bridge;

89 (s) Subject to the conditions prescribed in subsection
90 (3) of this section, a central Harrison County connector from I-10
91 to U.S. 90 in the vicinity of Canal Road to the Mississippi State
92 Port at Gulfport; and

93 (t) An east Harrison County connector from U.S. 90 to
94 I-10 to be located between the Cowan-Lorraine Road interchange and
95 the I-110 interchange.

96 (u) Four-lanes for traffic along U.S. 49 in Coahoma
97 County beginning at the U.S. Highway 61 overpass and extending

98 south to Jonestown-Clairemont Road.

99 (3) Authorization for the project described in paragraph
100 (2)(s) of this section is conditioned upon receipt by the
101 Mississippi Transportation Commission of a written commitment by
102 the Department of Economic and Community Development to make
103 available for such project not less than Six Million Dollars
104 (\$6,000,000.00).

105 (4) All planning, construction, reconstruction and
106 performance of the projects authorized under this section,
107 including the letting of contracts, shall commence, proceed and be
108 performed by the Mississippi Transportation Commission and the
109 Mississippi Department of Transportation according to priorities
110 based on volume capacity and traffic congestion in comparative
111 project areas; however, if a project authorized in this section is
112 also included in the four-lane highway program under Section
113 65-3-97, then all contracts necessary to be let for the completion
114 of the project under this section shall be let not later than the
115 priorities established for the letting of contracts for the
116 project under Section 65-3-97.

117 (5) (a) Funds for the projects authorized under this
118 section may be provided through the issuance of bonds under
119 Sections 65-39-5 through 65-39-33, through the issuance of notes
120 for such purposes under Section 31-17-127 or from such monies as
121 may be available in the Gaming Counties State-Assisted
122 Infrastructure Fund created under Section 65-39-17.

123 (b) In addition to the funds provided for under
124 paragraph (a) of this subsection, funds for the project described
125 in subsection (2)(s) of this section also may be provided from any
126 available federal, state, county or municipal funds authorized for
127 such project, including the Economic Development Highway Act.

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