

*****Adopted*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

Senate Bill NO. 3318

By Representative(s) Committee

12 Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
13 in lieu thereof the following:

14

15 SECTION 1. Chapter 977, Laws of 1994, is amended as follows:

16 Section 1. This act is for the purpose of authorizing a
17 cooperative effort by the Cities of Brandon, Flowood, Pearl,
18 Richland and other eligible municipalities, public agencies and
19 political subdivisions for the acquisition, construction and
20 operation of one or more systems for the collection,
21 transportation, treatment and disposal of waste, and for the
22 collection, transportation, treatment and distribution of water,
23 including sewerage systems, sewage treatment facilities, sewage
24 disposal systems, waterworks and water supply systems, in order to
25 ensure an adequate supply of water for domestic, commercial and
26 industrial use and to prevent and control the pollution of the
27 waters in this state by the creation of a West Rankin Metropolitan
28 Water Supply and Sewer Authority. This act may be cited as the
29 "West Rankin Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewer Authority Act."

30 Section 2. Words and phrases used in this act shall have
31 meanings as follows:

32 (a) "Act" means the West Rankin Metropolitan Water
33 Supply and Sewer Authority Act, as originally enacted or as
34 hereafter amended.

35 (b) "Board of directors" means the board of directors
36 of the West Rankin Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewer Authority.

37 (c) "Bonds" means revenue bonds, interim notes having a
38 maturity of three (3) years or less, and other certificates of
39 indebtedness of the metropolitan authority issued under the
40 provisions of this act.

41 (d) "Member agency" means the City of Brandon, the City
42 of Flowood, the City of Pearl and the City of Richland and any
43 public agency which elects to become a constituent member of the
44 West Rankin Metropolitan Water and Sewer Authority upon its
45 organization or which subsequently elects to become a member of
46 the West Rankin Metropolitan Water and Sewer Authority and which
47 is admitted to the metropolitan * * * authority by affirmative
48 vote of the board of directors of such authority, in accordance
49 with the provisions of Section 3(5) of this act.

50 (e) "Metropolitan area" means all of the area or
51 territory lying within Rankin County, Mississippi, and lying
52 within five (5) miles from any portion of the corporate limits of
53 the City of Brandon, the City of Flowood, the City of Pearl or the
54 City of Richland; provided, however, that the metropolitan area
55 shall not include any area located within the corporate limits of
56 a municipality which is not a member agency.

57 (f) "Metropolitan area plan" means a comprehensive plan
58 for a sewage disposal system within the metropolitan area,
59 consistent with standards established pursuant to applicable
60 federal and state law.

61 (g) "Metropolitan * * * authority" means an authority
62 created pursuant to this act to serve the metropolitan area or a
63 designated portion thereof, as set forth in the decree creating or
64 expanding the metropolitan sewer authority.

65 (h) "Municipality" means any incorporated city or town
66 of the State of Mississippi, whether operating under general law
67 or under special charter, lying wholly or partly within the
68 metropolitan area.

69 (i) "Person" means and includes the State of

70 Mississippi, a municipality as defined herein, any public agency
71 as defined herein or any other city, town or political subdivision
72 or governmental agency of the State of Mississippi or of the
73 United States of America, or any private utility, individual,
74 copartnership, association, firm, trust, estate or any other
75 entity whatsoever.

76 (j) The terms "pollution," * * * and "waters of the
77 state" shall have meanings as set forth in the Mississippi Air and
78 Water Pollution Control Law, as now or hereafter amended,
79 appearing as Section 49-17-1 through Section 49-17-70, Mississippi
80 Code of 1972.

81 (k) "Public agency" means any county, municipality
82 (including the City of Brandon, the City of Flowood and the City
83 of Pearl), lying wholly or partially within the metropolitan area,
84 any state board or commission owning or operating properties
85 within a metropolitan area, a district created pursuant to
86 Sections 51-9-101 through 51-9-163 or Sections 19-5-151 through
87 19-5-257, Mississippi Code of 1972, or any other political
88 subdivision of the State of Mississippi lying wholly or partially
89 within a metropolitan area and having the power to own and operate
90 waterworks, water supply systems, sewerage systems, treatment
91 facilities or sewage disposal systems, or other facilities or
92 systems for the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal
93 of waste.

94 (l) "Sewage disposal system" means a system for
95 disposing of waste, including, but not limited to, sewerage
96 systems and sewage treatment facilities, as such terms are defined
97 herein.

98 (m) "Sewerage system" means pipelines or conduits,
99 canals, pumping stations and force mains, and all other
100 structures, devices, facilities and appliances appurtenant
101 thereto, used for collecting or conducting waste to an ultimate
102 point for treatment or disposal.

103 (n) "Sewage treatment facilities" means any plant,
104 disposal field, lagoon, pumping station, constructing drainage

105 ditch or surface water intercepting ditch, canal, incinerator,
106 area devoted to sanitary landfills or other works not specifically
107 mentioned herein, installed for the purpose of treating,
108 neutralizing, stabilizing or disposing of waste or facilities to
109 provide cooling water to collect, control and dispose of waste
110 heat.

111 (o) "Waste" means sewage, industrial waste, municipal
112 waste, recreational waste and agricultural waste, waste heat and
113 any other waste that may cause impairment of the quality of the
114 waters in the state.

115 (p) "Water supply system" means pipelines, conduits,
116 pumping stations and all other structures, devices and appliances
117 appurtenant thereto, including land and right-of-way thereto, for
118 use for transporting water to a point of ultimate use.

119 (q) "Waterworks" means all works, plants or other
120 facilities necessary for the purpose of collecting, storing,
121 treating and transporting water for domestic, municipal,
122 commercial, industrial, agricultural and manufacturing purposes,
123 including open channels.

124 Section 3. (1) The City of Brandon, the City of Flowood,
125 the City of Pearl, and the City of Richland are authorized to file
126 a joint petition, which may be joined in by any public agency
127 lying wholly or partly within the metropolitan area, for the
128 organization of a metropolitan * * * authority in this state under
129 the provisions of this act in the manner hereinafter provided;
130 and, when so organized, the metropolitan * * * authority shall be
131 a political subdivision of the State of Mississippi, and a body
132 politic and corporate, and shall have the powers granted to a
133 metropolitan * * * authority under the act.

134 (2) A petition for the organization of a metropolitan * * *
135 authority shall be filed in the Chancery Court of Rankin County,
136 which petition shall show the proposed metropolitan area, the
137 proposed member public agencies and the necessity and desirability
138 of the proposed metropolitan * * * authority and shall be signed
139 by duly authorized elected public officials of the municipalities

140 within the proposed metropolitan area joining in filing the
141 petition and the authorized officers of any other public agency
142 joining in the petition. Upon the filing of said petition the
143 chancery clerk shall promptly give written notice of the same to a
144 chancellor of said chancery court who shall enter an order setting
145 a date not less than thirty (30) days from the date of the order
146 for a hearing on the organization of such metropolitan * * *
147 authority. Any public agency not a petitioner and any private
148 utility within the proposed metropolitan area shall be served with
149 process as a party defendant to said petition. The chancery clerk
150 shall cause a notice of such hearing addressed to the taxpayers
151 and qualified electors of the proposed metropolitan area and all
152 other persons interested to be published once a week for at least
153 three (3) successive weeks in a newspaper or newspapers published
154 in Rankin County having a general circulation within the proposed
155 metropolitan area, which notice shall state the date, place and
156 time of such hearing, that a petition has been filed to organize a
157 metropolitan * * * authority under the provisions of this act,
158 describe the proposed metropolitan area, and command that all such
159 persons appear before the chancery court or the chancellor in
160 vacation on the date and hour of the hearing to show cause, if any
161 they can, why the proposed metropolitan * * * authority should not
162 be organized and established as set forth in the said petition.
163 The first publication shall be at least twenty-one (21) days
164 before the date of such hearing and the last publication shall be
165 not more than seven (7) days before the date of such hearing.

166 (3) The chancery court may hear the petition at any term
167 thereof, or the chancellor of said court may fix a time to hear
168 such petition at any time in vacation, and may determine all
169 matters pertaining thereto, may adjourn the hearing from time to
170 time, and may continue the case for want of sufficient notice or
171 other good cause. If said petition shall prove defective in any
172 manner, the petitioners, upon motion, shall be permitted to amend
173 the same. At such hearing, or a day to which the same may be
174 continued, the chancellor shall take evidence and all interested

175 persons objecting to the creation of such metropolitan * * *
176 authority may appear and contest the same. If the chancellor
177 shall find that a sound plan exists for the creation of a
178 metropolitan * * * authority to accomplish the purposes set forth
179 in this act and the same would meet a public necessity, he shall
180 render a decree creating such metropolitan * * * authority under
181 the provisions of this act, specifying in the decree the
182 metropolitan area to be served thereby, which may be less than the
183 area set out in the petition. The chancellor shall not include
184 within the metropolitan area of a proposed metropolitan * * *
185 authority any area lying within the corporate limits of a
186 municipality unless such municipality shall have either joined in
187 the petition or filed a written consent to such inclusion adopted
188 by its governing body. If the chancellor finds that the proposed
189 metropolitan * * * authority should not be organized, then he
190 shall dismiss the proceedings.

191 (4) When so organized, the metropolitan * * * authority
192 shall have the power to sue and be sued, provided that the
193 metropolitan * * * authority shall not be liable and shall be
194 immune from suit at law or in * * * equity on account of any
195 wrongful or tortious act or omission, including libel, slander or
196 defamation, by it, or any such act or omission by any employee of
197 any such metropolitan * * * authority, subject to and in
198 accordance with the provisions of Sections 11-46-1 through
199 11-46-19, Mississippi Code of 1972.

200 (5) If at any time any public agency within the metropolitan
201 area of the duly organized metropolitan * * * authority shall
202 elect to become a member agency of the metropolitan * * *
203 authority by a majority vote of the governing body of such public
204 agency, such public agency may be admitted as a member agency of
205 such metropolitan * * * authority, upon the approval by a
206 three-fifths (3/5) affirmative vote of the total membership of the
207 board of directors of the metropolitan * * * authority and by a
208 concurrent affirmative vote of directors representing sixty
209 percent (60%) of the total payments for use of the sewerage system

210 of the metropolitan * * * authority during the preceding fiscal
211 year.

212 (6) The metropolitan area of the metropolitan * * *
213 authority may be expanded or enlarged at any time by decree of the
214 Chancery Court of Rankin County, if the chancellor shall render a
215 decree finding that the public necessity requires such expansion
216 after timely publication of notice and a hearing held before the
217 chancellor in the manner provided in this section.

218 Section 4. All powers of the metropolitan * * * authority
219 shall be exercised by a board of directors to be selected and
220 composed as follows: The governing body of each member agency
221 shall appoint one (1) person to serve on the board of directors of
222 the metropolitan * * * authority, each such director to serve at
223 the pleasure of the respective governing body.

224 The board of directors of the metropolitan * * * authority
225 shall annually elect from its number a president and vice
226 president of the metropolitan authority and such other officers
227 as, in the judgment of the board, are necessary. The president
228 shall be the chief executive officer of the metropolitan * * *
229 authority and the presiding officer of the board, and shall have
230 the same right to vote as any other director. The vice president
231 shall perform all duties and exercise all powers conferred by this
232 act upon the president when the president is absent or fails or
233 declines to act, except the president's right to vote. The board
234 shall also appoint a secretary and a treasurer who may or may not
235 be members of the board, and it may combine those officers. The
236 treasurer shall give bond in the sum of not less than Fifty
237 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) as set by the board of directors,
238 and each director may be required to give bond in the sum of not
239 less than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), with sureties
240 qualified to do business in this state, and the premiums on said
241 bonds shall be an expense of such metropolitan * * * authority.
242 Each such bond shall be payable to the State of Mississippi; the
243 condition of each such bond shall be that the treasurer or
244 director will faithfully perform all duties of his office and

245 account for all money or other assets which shall come into his
246 custody as treasurer or director of such metropolitan * * *
247 authority.

248 Except for the election or appointment of officers, all
249 business of the metropolitan * * * authority shall be transacted
250 by a three-fifths (3/5) affirmative vote of the total membership
251 of the board of directors and, if the authority shall own or
252 operate a sewerage system, by a concurrent vote of directors
253 representing sixty percent (60%) of the total payments for use of
254 the sewerage system of the metropolitan * * * authority during the
255 preceding fiscal year. The quorum for any meeting of the board of
256 directors shall be three-fifths (3/5) of the total membership of
257 the board of directors and, if the authority shall own or operate
258 a sewerage system, the presence of directors representing more
259 than sixty percent (60%) of the total payments for use of the
260 sewerage system of the metropolitan * * * authority during the
261 preceding fiscal year.

262 Section 5. The metropolitan * * * authority is authorized
263 and empowered to acquire * * * , construct, improve, enlarge,
264 extend, repair, operate and maintain one or more waterworks, water
265 supply systems, sewerage systems or sewage disposal systems and to
266 make contracts with any person in furtherance thereof; and to make
267 contracts with any public agency, under the terms of which the
268 metropolitan * * * authority will, within its designated
269 metropolitan area, provide water to or accept, transport, treat or
270 dispose of waste for such public agency. A metropolitan
271 authority may also enter into contracts with any person to design
272 and construct any water supply system, waterworks or any waste
273 collection, transportation, treatment or sewage disposal
274 facilities or systems and thereafter * * * purchase, lease or
275 sell, by installments over such terms as may be deemed desirable,
276 or otherwise, any such system. The metropolitan * * * authority
277 is also authorized to enter into operating agreements with any
278 person, for such terms and upon such conditions as may be deemed
279 desirable, for the operation of any water supply system,

280 waterworks, or any waste collection, transportation, treatment or
281 sewage disposal facilities or systems; and the metropolitan * * *
282 authority may lease to or from any person, for such term and upon
283 such conditions as may be deemed desirable, any waterworks, water
284 supply systems or any waste collection, transportation, treatment
285 or sewage disposal facilities or systems. Any such contract may
286 contain provisions requiring any public agency or other person to
287 regulate the quality and strength of waste to be handled by the
288 sewage disposal system and may also provide that a
289 metropolitan * * * authority shall have the right to use any
290 streets, alleys and public ways and places within the jurisdiction
291 of a public agency * * * during the term of the contract. Any
292 provision of this act to the contrary notwithstanding, the
293 metropolitan * * * authority shall not become the owner of any
294 existing sewage disposal system unless all municipalities or other
295 public agencies currently utilizing such system or any portion
296 thereof, including the City of Richland, are offered access to
297 such sewage disposal system on terms not less favorable than the
298 terms contained in contracts with the City of Jackson in existence
299 prior to acquisition of such ownership. The City of Richland
300 shall have access to such system on terms not less favorable than
301 the terms contained in the contract between the Richland Water and
302 Sewer District (now the City of Richland) and the City of Jackson
303 dated the 21st day of February, 1975, as interpreted by the
304 Circuit Court of Rankin County in Cause No. 14,141; provided,
305 however, that the City of Richland will also pay its
306 proportionate share of the operation, maintenance and debt service
307 of the West Rankin Pumping Station, beginning at such time as such
308 system is acquired by the metropolitan * * * authority.

309 Section 6. The metropolitan * * * authority, through its
310 board of directors, in addition to any and all powers now or
311 hereafter granted to it, is hereby empowered:

312 (a) To develop and maintain long-range planning for
313 collection treatment and distribution of water and for the
314 collection, transportation, treatment and disposal or waste and

315 for pollution abatement.

316 (b) To acquire * * * and to own, maintain, use, operate
317 and convey or otherwise dispose of any and all property of any
318 kind, real, personal or mixed, or any interest therein within or
319 without the boundaries of its designated metropolitan area
320 necessary or convenient to the exercise of the purposes of and the
321 powers granted by Section 21-27-7 and Sections 21-27-161 through
322 21-27-191 unless any of the foregoing is otherwise prohibited
323 under the Constitution or this act. * * * The amount and
324 character of interest in land, other property, and easements thus
325 to be acquired shall be determined by the board of directors, and
326 their determination shall be conclusive and shall not be subject
327 to attack in the absence of manifold abuse of discretion or fraud
328 on the part of such board in making such determination. However,

329 (i) In acquiring lands, * * * a metropolitan * * *
330 authority shall not acquire minerals or royalties; provided that
331 sand and gravel shall not be considered as minerals within the
332 meaning of this section; and

333 (ii) No person or persons owning the drilling
334 rights or the right to share in production shall be prevented from
335 exploring, developing or producing oil or gas with necessary
336 rights-of-way for ingress and egress, pipelines and other means of
337 transporting interests on any land or interest thereon of any
338 metropolitan * * * authority held or used for the purposes of this
339 act; but any such activities shall be under such reasonable
340 regulations by the board of directors as will adequately protect
341 the waterworks, water supply system and sewage disposal system of
342 any such metropolitan * * * authority contemplated by this act.

343 (c) To provide for the necessary relocation or
344 re-routing of roads and highways, railroad, telephone and
345 telegraph lines and properties, electric power lines, gas pipe
346 lines and related facilities, or to require the anchoring or other
347 protection of any of these, provided due compensation is first
348 paid to the owners thereof or agreement is had with such owners
349 regarding the payment of the cost of such relocation, and to

350 acquire easements or rights-of-way for such relocation or
351 re-routing and to convey the same to the owners of the property
352 being relocated or re-routed in connection with the purpose of
353 this act.

354 (d) To enter into contracts with any * * * public
355 agency, including, but not limited to, contracts authorized by
356 Section 7 of this act, in furtherance of any of the purposes
357 authorized by this act upon such consideration as the board of
358 directors and such person may agree. Any such contract may extend
359 over any period of time, notwithstanding any provision or rule of
360 law to the contrary, may be upon such terms as the parties thereto
361 shall agree, and may provide that it shall continue in effect
362 until bonds specified therein, refunding bonds issued in lieu of
363 such bonds, and all other obligations specified therein are paid
364 or terminated. Any such contract shall be binding upon the
365 parties thereto according to its terms.

366 (e) To make and enforce, and from time to time amend
367 and repeal, bylaws and rules and regulations for the management of
368 its business and affairs and for the construction, use,
369 maintenance and operation of any waterworks, water supply systems
370 and sewage disposal systems under its management and control and
371 any other of its properties.

372 (f) To employ staff and other personnel, including
373 attorneys, engineers and consultants. The board of directors may,
374 in its discretion, employ a general manager having the authority
375 to employ and fire employees of the metropolitan * * * authority.

376 (g) To accept and utilize grants and other funds from
377 any source for waterworks, water supply systems and sewage
378 disposal systems.

379 (h) To establish and maintain rates and charges for the
380 use of the services of such waterworks, water supply systems,
381 sewerage systems, * * * treatment facilities and sewage disposal
382 systems * * *, and from time to time to adjust such rates, to the
383 end that the revenues therefrom will be sufficient at all times to
384 pay the expenses of operating and maintaining such works,

385 facilities and systems and all of the metropolitan authority's
386 obligations under any contract or bond resolution with respect
387 thereto.

388 (i) To adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry
389 out the implementation of the metropolitan area plan and to assure
390 the payment by each participating * * * public agency of its
391 proportionate share of treatment costs.

392 (j) To refuse to receive waste from any public agency
393 or subdivision thereof not currently using any sewerage system
394 which may be acquired by the metropolitan * * * authority or any
395 other person that does not comply with the provisions of the
396 metropolitan area plan applicable to the particular area within
397 which such public agency or subdivision thereof or any other
398 person is located.

399 (k) To accept industrial waste for treatment and to
400 require the pretreatment of same when within the opinion of such
401 metropolitan * * * authority such pretreatment is necessary.

402 (l) To adopt all necessary and reasonable rules and
403 regulations to carry out and effectuate any water supply, waste
404 treatment or waste disposal plan adopted for the metropolitan
405 area, as contractually authorized.

406 (m) So long as any indebtedness on any sewerage system,
407 treatment facilities and sewage disposal of the metropolitan * * *
408 authority remains outstanding, to require by contract with a
409 public agency or other person that all waste within the
410 metropolitan area be disposed of through sewerage systems,
411 treatment facilities and sewage disposal systems which comprise a
412 part of the metropolitan area plan, to the extent that the same
413 may be available, but no public agency shall be precluded from
414 constructing, operating and maintaining its own sewerage system
415 after the current indebtedness owing on the system as of the
416 effective date of this act is paid in full.

417 Section 7. (1) Any public agency may, pursuant to a duly
418 adopted resolution of the governing authority of such public
419 agency, enter into contracts with the metropolitan * * * authority

420 under the terms of which the metropolitan * * * authority will
421 collect, within its designated metropolitan area, * * * and
422 transport, treat or dispose of waste for such * * * public agency.
423 Any public agency may also, pursuant to a duly adopted resolution
424 of the governing authority of such public agency, enter into
425 contracts with the metropolitan * * * authority under the terms of
426 which the metropolitan authority will collect, store, treat and
427 distribute water for such public agency. Any public agency may
428 also enter into contracts with the metropolitan authority for the
429 metropolitan authority to purchase or sell, by installments over
430 such terms as may be deemed desirable, or otherwise, * * * any
431 waterworks, water supply systems, waste collection,
432 transportation, treatment or sewage disposal facilities or
433 systems. Any public agency is also authorized to enter into
434 operating agreements with the metropolitan * * * authority, for
435 such terms and upon such conditions as may be deemed desirable,
436 for the operation of waterworks, water supply systems, waste
437 collection, transportation, treatment or sewage disposal
438 facilities or systems * * * by such metropolitan * * * authority
439 or by any person contracting with the metropolitan * * * authority
440 to operate such systems; and any public agency may lease to or
441 from the metropolitan * * * authority, for such term and upon such
442 conditions as may be deemed desirable, any waterworks, water
443 supply systems, waste collection, transportation, treatment or
444 sewage disposal facilities or systems. Any such contract may
445 contain provisions requiring any public agency * * * to regulate
446 the quality and strength of waste to be handled by the sewage
447 disposal system and may also provide that such metropolitan * * *
448 authority shall have the right to use any streets, alleys and
449 public ways and places within the jurisdiction of a public
450 agency * * * during the term of the contract for its water supply
451 or sewerage system. Such contracts may obligate the public agency
452 to make payments to such metropolitan * * * authority or to a
453 trustee in amounts which shall be sufficient to enable such
454 metropolitan * * * authority to defray the expenses of

455 administering, operating and maintaining its waterworks, water
456 supply system and sewage disposal system, to pay interest and
457 principal (whether at maturity upon redemption or otherwise) on
458 bonds of such metropolitan * * * authority issued pursuant to this
459 act and to fund reserves for debt service, for operation and
460 maintenance and for renewals and replacements, and to fulfill the
461 requirements of any rate covenant with respect to debt service
462 coverage contained in any resolution, trust indenture or other
463 security agreement relating to the bonds of such
464 metropolitan * * * authority issued pursuant to this act. Any
465 public agency shall have the power to enter into such contracts
466 with the metropolitan * * * authority as in the discretion of the
467 governing authorities thereof would be in the best interest of
468 such public agency. Such contracts may include a pledge of the
469 full faith and credit of such public agency and/or the avails of
470 any special assessments made by such public agency against
471 property receiving benefits, as now or hereafter provided by law.
472 Any such contract may provide for the sale or lease to or use of
473 by such metropolitan * * * authority of any waterworks, water
474 supply system or sewage disposal system or any part thereof of the
475 public agency; may provide that such metropolitan * * * authority
476 shall operate any waterworks, water supply system or sewage
477 disposal system or any part thereof of the public agency; may
478 provide that any public agency shall have the right to continued
479 use and/or priority use of its waterworks, water supply system or
480 sewage disposal system or any part thereof during the useful life
481 thereof upon payment of reasonable charges therefor; may contain
482 provisions to assure equitable treatment of * * * public agencies
483 who contract with such metropolitan * * * authority pursuant to
484 this act; and may contain such other provisions and requirements
485 as the parties thereto may determine to be appropriate or
486 necessary. Such contracts may extend over any period of time,
487 notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, and may
488 extend beyond the life of the waterworks, water supply system or
489 sewage disposal system or any part thereof or the term of any

490 bonds sold with respect to such facilities or improvements
491 thereto.

492 (2) The obligations of a public agency arising under the
493 terms of any contract referred to in this act, whether or not
494 payable solely from a pledge of revenues, shall not be included
495 within the indebtedness limitations of the public agency for
496 purposes of any constitutional or statutory limitation or
497 provision. To the extent provided in such contract and to the
498 extent such obligations of the public agency are payable wholly or
499 in part from the revenues and other monies derived by the public
500 agency from the operation of its waterworks, water supply system,
501 sewerage system or sewage disposal system or of its combined
502 waterworks, water supply and sewage system or any part thereof,
503 such obligations shall be treated as expenses of operating such
504 systems.

505 (3) Contracts referred to in this section may also provide
506 for payments in the form of contributions to defray the cost of
507 any purpose set forth in the contracts and as advances for the
508 waterworks, water supply system, sewerage system or sewage
509 disposal system or any part thereof subject to repayment by a
510 metropolitan * * * authority. A public agency may make such
511 contributions or advances from its general fund or surplus fund or
512 from special assessments or from any monies legally available
513 therefor.

514 (4) Payments made or to be made to any metropolitan * * *
515 authority by a public agency * * * pursuant to a contract for any
516 waterworks, water supply system or sewage disposal system or any
517 part thereof shall not be subject to approval or review by the
518 Mississippi Public Service Commission.

519 (5) Subject to the terms of a contract or contracts referred
520 to in this act, any metropolitan * * * authority is hereby
521 authorized to do and perform any and all acts or things necessary,
522 convenient or desirable to carry out the purposes of such
523 contracts, including the fixing, charging, collecting, maintaining
524 and revising of rates, fees and other charges for the services

525 rendered to any public agency using any waterworks, water supply
526 system or sewage disposal system operated or maintained by a
527 metropolitan * * * authority, whether or not such systems are
528 owned by such metropolitan * * * authority.

529 (6) No provision of this act shall be construed to prohibit
530 any public agency, otherwise permitted by law to issue bonds, from
531 issuing bonds in the manner provided by law for the construction,
532 renovation, repair or development of a waterworks, water supply
533 system or a sewage disposal system or any part thereof owned or
534 operated by such public agency.

535 Section 8. Whenever a public agency shall have executed a
536 contract pursuant to this act and the payments thereunder are to
537 be made either wholly or partly from the revenues of the public
538 agency's * * * waterworks, water supply system, sewage disposal
539 system or any part thereof or a combination of such systems, the
540 duty is hereby imposed on the public agency to establish and
541 maintain and from time to time to adjust the rates charged by the
542 public agency for the services of such system or systems, such
543 that the revenues therefrom together with any taxes and special
544 assessments levied in support thereof will be sufficient at all
545 times to pay: (a) the expense of operating and maintaining such
546 system or systems including all of the public agency's obligations
547 to such metropolitan * * * authority, its successors or assigns
548 under such contract; and (b) all of the public agency's
549 obligations under and in connection with revenue bonds theretofore
550 issued, or which may be issued thereafter and secured by the
551 revenues of such system or systems. Any such contract may require
552 the use of consulting engineers and financial experts to advise
553 the public agency whether and when such rates are to be adjusted.

554 Section 9. (1) The metropolitan * * * authority shall have
555 the power and is hereby authorized, from time to time, to borrow
556 money and to issue revenue bonds in such principal amounts as such
557 metropolitan * * * authority may determine to be necessary to
558 provide sufficient funds for achieving one or more of the purposes
559 of this act, including, without limiting the generality of the

560 foregoing, to defray the cost of the acquisition * * *,
561 construction, improvement, repair or extension of a waterworks,
562 water supply system or sewage disposal system * * *, or any part
563 thereof, whether or not such facilities are owned by such
564 metropolitan * * * authority, the payment of interest during
565 construction on bonds of such metropolitan * * * authority issued
566 pursuant to this act, establishment of reserves to secure such
567 bonds and payment of the interest thereon, expenses incident to
568 the issuance of such bonds and to the implementation of such
569 metropolitan * * * authority's waterworks, water supply system or
570 sewage disposal system, and all other expenditures of the
571 metropolitan * * * authority incident to or necessary or
572 convenient to carry out the purposes of this act.

573 (2) Before issuing bonds (other than interim notes or
574 refunding bonds as provided in Section 10 of this act) hereunder,
575 the board of directors of the metropolitan * * * authority shall
576 first hold a public hearing before the governing authorities of
577 each affected public agency with due notice of the time, date and
578 place of said hearing published in a newspaper of general
579 circulation in said public agency, and then shall adopt a
580 resolution declaring its intention to issue such bonds and stating
581 the maximum principal amount of bonds proposed to be issued, a
582 general generic description of the proposed improvements and the
583 proposed location thereof and the date, time and place at which
584 the board of directors proposes to take further action with
585 respect to the issuance of such bonds. No director shall vote for
586 the resolution of intent to issue such bonds unless the governing
587 authorities of the entity represented by said director shall have
588 adopted a resolution, not more than sixty (60) days before said
589 vote, authorizing said director to vote therefor. The resolution
590 of the authority shall be published once a week for at least three
591 (3) consecutive weeks in at least one (1) newspaper having a
592 general circulation within the geographical limits of all of the
593 public agencies:

594 (a) Which have contracted with the metropolitan * * *

595 authority pursuant to this act; and

596 (b) Whose contracts relate to the bonds proposed to be
597 issued, (each member agency which meets all of the criteria set
598 forth in (a) and (b) foregoing is hereinafter in this section
599 referred to as "affected member agency," and, together with other
600 such agencies, collectively referred to as the "affected member
601 agencies"); provided, however, that if no newspaper has a general
602 circulation within the geographical limits of all of the affected
603 member agencies, then such resolution shall be published in as
604 many different newspapers as may be required to provide general
605 circulation of the publication of such resolution within the
606 geographical limits of each affected member agency; and, provided
607 further, that if no newspaper has a general circulation within the
608 geographical limits of any particular affected member agency, then
609 notice in such affected member agency shall be made by posting a
610 copy of such resolution for at least twenty-one (21) days next
611 preceding the date therein at two (2) public places within the
612 geographical limits of such member agency. The first publication
613 of such resolution shall be made not less than twenty-one (21)
614 days prior to the date fixed in such resolution to direct the
615 issuance of the bonds and the last publication shall be made not
616 more than seven (7) days prior to such date. If twenty percent
617 (20%) of the qualified electors residing in the authority or one
618 thousand five hundred (1,500), whichever is lesser, shall file a
619 written protest against the issuance of such bonds on or before
620 the date specified in such resolution, then an election on the
621 question of the issuance of such bonds shall be called and held as
622 herein provided. If no such protest be filed, then such bonds may
623 be issued without an election on the question of the issuance
624 thereof at any time within a period of two (2) years after the
625 date specified in the above-mentioned resolution. Where an
626 election is to be called, notice of such election shall be signed
627 by the president of the board of directors, and shall be published
628 once a week for at least three (3) consecutive weeks in the same
629 manner as publication of the resolution. The first publication of

630 such notice shall be made not less than twenty-one (21) days prior
631 to the date fixed for such election and the last publication shall
632 be made not more than seven (7) days prior to such date. The
633 election shall be conducted by the election commissioners of the
634 county in which the authority is located. Such election shall be
635 held, as far as is practicable, in the same manner as other county
636 special elections are held in the county where the authority is
637 located. At such election, all qualified electors residing in the
638 authority may vote, and the ballots used at such election shall
639 have printed thereon a brief statement of the amount and purpose
640 of the proposed bond issue and the words "FOR THE BOND ISSUE" and
641 "AGAINST THE BOND ISSUE," and the voter shall vote by placing a
642 cross (X) or check mark (V) opposite his choice on the
643 proposition. When the results of the election on the question of
644 the issuance of such bonds shall have been canvassed by the
645 election commissioners of the county in which the authority is
646 located and certified by them to the board of directors of the
647 authority, it shall be the duty of the board of directors of the
648 authority to determine and adjudicate whether or not a majority of
649 the qualified electors who voted thereon in such election voted in
650 favor of the issuance of such bonds, and unless a majority of the
651 qualified electors who voted thereon in such election shall have
652 voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds, then such bonds
653 shall not be issued. Should a majority of the qualified electors
654 who vote thereon in such election vote in favor of the issuance of
655 such bonds, then the board of directors may issue such bonds,
656 either in whole or in part, within two (2) years after the date of
657 the election or the date of the final favorable termination of any
658 litigation affecting the issuance of such bonds.

659 (3) Bonds of any metropolitan * * * authority issued
660 pursuant to this act shall be payable from and secured by a pledge
661 of all or any part of the revenues under one or more entered into
662 pursuant to this act between the metropolitan authority and one or
663 more of its member public agencies and from all or any part of the
664 revenues derived from the operation of any designated waterworks,

665 water supply system or sewage disposal system or any part or parts
666 thereof and any other monies legally available and designated
667 therefor, as may be determined by such metropolitan * * *
668 authority, subject only to any agreement with the purchasers of
669 the bonds. Such bonds may be further secured by a trust indenture
670 between such metropolitan * * * authority and a corporate trustee,
671 which may be any trust company or bank having powers of a trust
672 company without or within the state.

673 (4) Bonds of the metropolitan * * * authority issued
674 pursuant to this act shall be authorized by a resolution or
675 resolutions adopted by a three-fifths (3/5) affirmative vote of
676 the total membership of the board of directors of the
677 metropolitan * * * authority and (if the authority shall own or
678 operate a sewerage system) by a concurrent affirmative vote of
679 directors representing sixty percent (60%) of the total payments
680 for use of the sewerage system of the metropolitan * * * authority
681 during the preceding fiscal year. Such bonds may be issued in
682 series, and each series of such bonds shall bear such date or
683 dates, mature at such time or times, bear interest at such rate or
684 rates (not exceeding the maximum rate set out in Section
685 75-17-103, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended), be in such
686 denomination or denominations, be in such form, carry such
687 conversion privileges, have such rank or priority, be executed in
688 such manner and by such officers, be payable from such sources in
689 such medium of payment at such place or places within or without
690 the state, provided that one (1) such place shall be within the
691 state, and be subject to such terms of redemption prior to
692 maturity, all as may be provided by resolution or resolutions of
693 the board of directors.

694 (5) Bonds of the metropolitan * * * authority issued
695 pursuant to this act may be sold at such price or prices, at
696 public or private sale, in such manner and at such times as may be
697 determined by such metropolitan * * * authority to be in the
698 public interest, and such metropolitan * * * authority may pay all
699 expenses, premiums, fees and commissions which it may deem

700 necessary and advantageous in connection with the issuance and
701 sale thereof.

702 (6) Any pledge of earnings, revenues or other monies made by
703 the metropolitan * * * authority shall be valid and binding from
704 the time the pledge is made. The earnings, revenues or other
705 monies so pledged and thereafter received by such
706 metropolitan * * * authority shall immediately be subject to the
707 lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or
708 further act, and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and
709 binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort,
710 contract or otherwise against such metropolitan * * * authority
711 irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof. Neither
712 the resolution nor any other instrument by which a pledge is
713 created need be recorded.

714 (7) Neither the members of the board of directors nor any
715 person executing the bonds shall be personally liable on the bonds
716 or be subject to any personal liability or accountability by
717 reason of the issuance thereof.

718 (8) Proceeds from the sale of bonds of the
719 metropolitan * * * authority may be invested, pending their use,
720 in such securities as may be specified in the resolution
721 authorizing the issuance of the bonds or the trust indenture
722 securing them, and the earnings on such investments applied as
723 provided in such resolution or trust indenture.

724 (9) Whenever any bonds shall have been signed by the
725 officer(s) designated by the resolution of the board of directors
726 to sign the bonds who were in office at the time of such signing
727 but who may have ceased to be such officer(s) prior to the sale
728 and delivery of such bonds, or who may not have been in office on
729 the date such bonds may bear, the manual or facsimile signatures
730 of such officer(s) upon such bonds shall nevertheless be valid and
731 sufficient for all purposes and have the same effect as if the
732 person so officially executing such bonds had remained in office
733 until the delivery of the same to the purchaser or had been in
734 office on the date such bonds may bear.

735 Section 10. The metropolitan * * * authority may by
736 resolution adopted by its board of directors issue refunding bonds
737 for the purpose of paying any of its bonds at or prior to maturity
738 or upon acceleration or redemption. Refunding bonds may be issued
739 at such time prior to the maturity or redemption of the refunded
740 bonds as the board of directors deems to be in the public
741 interest, without an election on the question of the issuance
742 thereof. The refunding bonds may be issued in sufficient amounts
743 to pay or provide the principal of the bonds being refunded,
744 together with any redemption premium thereon, any interest accrued
745 or to accrue to the date of payment of such bonds, the expenses of
746 issue of the refunding bonds, the expenses of redeeming the bonds
747 being refunded, and such reserves for debt service or other
748 capital or current expenses from the proceeds of such refunding
749 bonds as may be required by the resolution, trust indenture or
750 other security instruments. The issue of refunding bonds, the
751 maturities and other details thereof, the security therefor, the
752 rights of the holders and the rights, duties and obligations of a
753 metropolitan * * * authority in respect of the same shall be
754 governed by the provisions of this act relating to the issue of
755 bonds other than refunding bonds insofar as the same may be
756 applicable. Any such refunding may be effected, whether the
757 obligations to be refunded shall have then matured or shall
758 thereafter mature, either by the exchange of the refunding bonds
759 for the obligations to be refunded thereby with the consent of the
760 holders of the obligations so to be refunded, or by sale of the
761 refunding bonds and the application of the proceeds thereof to the
762 payment of the obligations proposed to be refunded thereby, and
763 regardless of whether the obligations proposed to be refunded
764 shall be payable on the same date or different dates or shall be
765 due serially or otherwise.

766 Section 11. All bonds (other than refunding bonds, interim
767 notes and certificates of indebtedness, which may be validated)
768 issued pursuant to this act shall be validated as now provided by
769 law in Sections 31-13-1 through 31-13-11, Mississippi Code of

770 1972; provided, however, that notice of such validation
771 proceedings shall be addressed to the citizens of the State of
772 Mississippi and the citizens of the respective member agencies (a)
773 which have contracted with the metropolitan * * * authority
774 pursuant to this act, and (b) whose contracts and the payments to
775 be made by the public agencies thereunder constitute security for
776 the bonds of such metropolitan * * * authority proposed to be
777 issued, and that such notice shall be published at least once in a
778 newspaper or newspapers having a general circulation within the
779 geographical boundaries of each of the member agencies to whose
780 citizens the notice is addressed and within the State of
781 Mississippi. Such validation proceedings shall be instituted in
782 the Chancery Court of Rankin County. The validity of the bonds so
783 validated and of the contracts and payments to be made by the
784 public agencies thereunder constituting security for the bonds
785 shall be forever conclusive against such metropolitan * * *
786 authority and the public agencies which are parties to said
787 contracts; and the validity of said bonds and said contracts and
788 the payments to be made thereunder shall never be called in
789 question in any court in this state.

790 Section 12. Bonds issued under the provisions of this act
791 shall not be deemed to constitute, within the meaning of any
792 constitutional or statutory limitation, an indebtedness of the
793 metropolitan authority or any member agency thereof. Such bonds
794 shall not be secured by a pledge of the full faith and credit of
795 the State of Mississippi, the metropolitan authority or any member
796 agency thereof, but shall be payable solely from the revenues or
797 assets of the metropolitan * * * authority pledged therefor. Each
798 bond issued under this act shall contain on the face thereof a
799 statement to the effect that such metropolitan * * * authority
800 shall not be obligated to pay the same nor the interest thereon
801 except from the revenues or assets pledged therefor.

802 Section 13. The metropolitan * * * authority shall have
803 power in connection with the issuance of its bonds to:

804 (a) Covenant as to the use of any or all of its

805 property, real or personal.

806 (b) Redeem the bonds, to covenant for their redemption
807 and to provide the terms and conditions thereof.

808 (c) Covenant to charge rates, fees and charges
809 sufficient to meet operating and maintenance expenses, renewals
810 and replacements, principal and debt service on bonds, creation
811 and maintenance of any reserves required by a bond resolution,
812 trust indenture or other security instrument and to provide for
813 any margins or coverages over and above debt service on the bonds
814 deemed desirable for the marketability of the bonds.

815 (d) Covenant and prescribe as to events of default and
816 terms and conditions upon which any or all of its bonds shall
817 become or may be declared due before maturity, as to the terms and
818 conditions upon which such declaration and its consequences may be
819 waived and as to the consequences of default and the remedies of
820 the registered owners of the bonds.

821 (e) Covenant as to the mortgage or pledge of or the
822 grant of a security interest in any real or personal property and
823 all or any part of the revenues from any designated waterworks,
824 water supply system or sewage disposal systems or any part thereof
825 or any revenue-producing contract or contracts made by such
826 metropolitan * * * authority with any person to secure the payment
827 of bonds, subject to such agreements with the registered owners of
828 bonds as may then exist.

829 (f) Covenant as to the custody, collection, securing,
830 investment and payment of any revenues, assets, monies, funds or
831 property with respect to which such metropolitan * * * authority
832 may have any rights or interest.

833 (g) Covenant as to the purposes to which the proceeds
834 from the sale of any bonds then or thereafter to be issued may be
835 applied, and the pledge of such proceeds to secure the payment of
836 the bonds.

837 (h) Covenant as to the limitations on the issuance of
838 any additional bonds, the terms upon which additional bonds may be
839 issued and secured, and the refunding of outstanding bonds.

840 (i) Covenant as to the rank or priority of any bonds
841 with respect to any lien or security.

842 (j) Covenant as to the procedure by which the terms of
843 any contract with or for the benefit of the registered owners of
844 bonds may be amended or abrogated, the amount of bonds the
845 registered owners of which must consent thereto, and the manner in
846 which such consent may be given.

847 (k) Covenant as to the custody of any of its properties
848 or investments, the safekeeping thereof, the insurance to be
849 carried thereon, and the use and disposition of insurance
850 proceeds.

851 (l) Covenant as to the vesting in a trustee or
852 trustees, within or outside the state, of such properties, rights,
853 powers and duties in trust as such metropolitan * * * authority
854 may determine.

855 (m) Covenant as to the appointing and providing for the
856 duties and obligations of a paying agent or paying agents or other
857 fiduciaries within or outside the state.

858 (n) Make all other covenants and to do any and all such
859 acts and things as may be necessary or convenient or desirable in
860 order to secure its bonds, or in the absolute discretion of the
861 metropolitan authority tend to make the bonds more marketable,
862 notwithstanding that such covenants, acts or things may not be
863 enumerated herein; it being the intention hereof to give any
864 metropolitan * * * authority power to do all things in the
865 issuance of bonds and in the provisions for security thereof which
866 are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the state.

867 (o) Execute all instruments necessary or convenient in
868 the exercise of the powers herein granted or in the performance of
869 covenants or duties, which may contain such covenants and
870 provisions, as any purchaser of the bonds of such
871 metropolitan * * * authority may reasonably require.

872 Section 14. The metropolitan * * * authority may, in any
873 authorizing resolution of the board of directors, trust indenture
874 or other security instrument relating to its bonds, provide for

875 the appointment of a trustee who shall have such powers as are
876 provided therein to represent the registered owners of any issue
877 of bonds in the enforcement or protection of their rights under
878 any such resolution, trust indenture or security instrument. The
879 metropolitan * * * authority may also provide in such resolution,
880 trust indenture or other security instrument that the trustee, or
881 in the event that the trustee so appointed shall fail or decline
882 to so protect and enforce such registered owners' rights then such
883 percentage of registered owners as shall be set forth in, and
884 subject to the provisions of, such resolution, trust indenture or
885 other security interest, may petition the court of proper
886 jurisdiction for the appointment of a receiver of the waterworks,
887 water supply system or sewage disposal system * * * the revenues
888 of which are pledged to the payment of the principal of and
889 interest on the bonds of such registered owners. Such receiver
890 may exercise any power as may be granted in any such resolution,
891 trust indenture or security instrument to enter upon and take
892 possession of, acquire, construct or reconstruct or operate and
893 maintain such waterworks, water supply system or sewage disposal
894 system * * *, fix, charge, collect, enforce and receive all
895 revenues derived from such sewage disposal system or facilities
896 and perform the public duties and carry out the contracts and
897 obligations of such metropolitan * * * authority in the same
898 manner as such metropolitan * * * authority itself might do, all
899 under the direction of such court.

900 Section 15. (1) The exercise of the powers granted by this
901 act will be in all respects for the benefit of the people of the
902 state, for their well-being and prosperity and for the improvement
903 of their social and economic conditions, and the
904 metropolitan * * * authority shall be required to pay any tax or
905 assessment on any property owned by the metropolitan * * *
906 authority under the provisions of this act or upon the income
907 therefrom; nor shall any metropolitan * * * authority be required
908 to pay any recording fee or transfer tax of any kind on account of
909 instruments recorded by it or on its behalf.

910 (2) Any bonds issued by the metropolitan * * * authority
911 under the provisions of this act, their transfer and the income
912 therefrom shall at all times be free from taxation by the state or
913 any local unit or political subdivision or other instrumentality
914 of the state, excepting inheritance and gift taxes.

915 Section 16. All bonds issued under the provisions of this
916 act shall be legal investments for trustees, other fiduciaries,
917 savings banks, trust companies and insurance companies organized
918 under the laws of the State of Mississippi; and such bonds shall
919 be legal securities which may be deposited with and shall be
920 received by all public officers and bodies of the state and all
921 municipalities and other political subdivisions thereof for the
922 purpose of securing the deposit of public funds.

923 Section 17. The state hereby covenants with the registered
924 owners of any bonds of any metropolitan * * * authority that so
925 long as the bonds are outstanding and unpaid the state will not
926 limit or alter the rights and powers of any metropolitan * * *
927 authority under this act to conduct the activities referred to
928 herein in any way pertinent to the interests of the bondholders
929 including without limitation such metropolitan * * * authority's
930 right to charge and collect rates, fees and charges and to
931 fulfill the terms of any covenants made with the registered owners
932 of the bonds, or in any other way impair the rights and remedies
933 of the registered owners of the bonds, unless provision for full
934 payment of such bonds, by escrow or otherwise, has been made
935 pursuant to the terms of the bonds or the resolution, trust
936 indenture or security interest securing the bonds.

937 Section 18. The provisions of this act are cumulative of
938 other statutes now or hereafter enacted relating to the issuance
939 of bonds; to waterworks, water supply system, sewerage systems and
940 sewage disposal systems; and to the design, construction,
941 acquisition or approval of facilities for such purposes, and any
942 public agency may exercise all presently held powers in the
943 furtherance of this act; provided that the metropolitan authority
944 may issue bonds only under the provisions of this act.

945 Section 19. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or
946 part of the provisions of this act shall be adjudged by any court
947 of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not
948 affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof directly
949 involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been
950 rendered.

951 Section 20. This act shall take effect and be in force from
952 and after its passage.

953 SECTION 2. A metropolitan sewer authority heretofore created
954 pursuant to Chapter 977, Local and Private Laws of 1994, may,
955 through its board of directors, exercise the powers conferred by
956 this act in accordance with the procedures specified in this act
957 without any further proceedings in the Chancery Court of Rankin
958 County, except that the metropolitan areas of such metropolitan
959 authority may be expanded or enlarged only by judicial decree of
960 the Chancery Court of Rankin County after notice and hearing as
961 provided in Section 3(6) of Chapter 977, Local and Private Laws of
962 1994, as amended by this act.

963 SECTION 3. The governing authority of the West Rankin
964 Metropolitan Sewer Authority shall submit this act, immediately
965 upon approval by the Governor, or upon approval by the Legislature
966 subsequent to a veto, to the Attorney General of the United States
967 or to the United States District Court for the District of
968 Columbia in accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights
969 Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

970 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
971 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
972 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 977, LOCAL AND PRIVATE LAWS OF 1994,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT A METROPOLITAN SEWER AUTHORITY CREATED UNDER SUCH
3 ACT MAY ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE WATERWORKS AND WATER SUPPLY
4 SYSTEMS AS WELL AS SEWERAGE SYSTEMS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS;
5 TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR SUCH SYSTEMS; TO
6 PROVIDE THAT A METROPOLITAN SEWER AUTHORITY HERETOFORE CREATED
7 UNDER THIS ACT MAY EXERCISE THE POWERS SPECIFIED IN THIS ACT

8 WITHOUT FURTHER JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS, OTHER THAN JUDICIAL
9 PROCEEDINGS TO EXPAND OR ENLARGE THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF SUCH
10 AUTHORITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.