MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

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By: Representative Mitchell

**REGULAR SESSION 2001** 

To: Transportation; Ways and Means

### HOUSE BILL NO. 237

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-5-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF A PORTION OF THE MOTOR FUEL TAX REVENUES 3 DIVERTED TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THAT IS 4 NOT NEEDED TO PAY THE ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE ON CERTAIN HIGHWAY BONDS 5 TO BE USED FOR PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE ON THE FOUR-LANE HIGHWAY 6 PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
SECTION 1. Section 27-5-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
amended as follows:

10 [With regard to any county which is exempt from the 11 provisions of Section 19-2-3, this section shall read as follows:] 12 27-5-101. Unless otherwise provided in this section, on or 13 before the fifteenth day of each month, all gasoline, diesel fuel 14 or kerosene taxes which are levied under the laws of this state 15 and collected during the previous month shall be paid and 16 apportioned by the State Tax Commission as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in Section 17 (a) (i) 31-17-127, from the gross amount of gasoline, diesel fuel or 18 kerosene taxes produced by the state, there shall be deducted an 19 amount equal to one-sixth (1/6) of principal and interest 20 certified by the State Treasurer to the State Tax Commission to be 21 due on the next semiannual bond and interest payment date, as 22 required under the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1938, and 23 subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds payable from 24 gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue on a parity with the 25 bonds issued under authority of said Chapter 130. The State 26 27 Treasurer shall certify to the State Tax Commission on or before the fifteenth day of each month the amount to be paid to the 28 "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" as provided by said Chapter 130, Laws 29 G1/2 H. B. No. 237 01/HR40/R177

30 of 1938, and subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds 31 payable from gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue, on a parity with the bonds issued under authority of said Chapter 130; 32 and the State Tax Commission shall, on or before the twenty-fifth 33 34 day of each month, pay into the State Treasury for credit to the "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" the amount so certified to him by the 35 State Treasurer due to be paid into such fund each month. 36 The payments to the "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" shall be made out of 37 gross gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax collections before 38 deductions of any nature are considered; however, such payments 39 40 shall be deducted from the allocation to the Mississippi Department of Transportation under paragraph (c) of this section. 41

42 (ii) From collections derived from the portion of the gasoline excise tax that exceeds Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon, 43 from the portion of the tax on aviation gas under Section 27-55-11 44 that exceeds Six and Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) per gallon, from the 45 portion of the special fuel tax levied under Sections 27-55-519 46 47 and 27-55-521, at Eighteen Cents (18¢) per gallon that exceeds Ten Cents (10¢) per gallon, from the portion of the taxes levied under 48 49 Section 27-55-519, at Five and Three-fourths Cents (5.75¢) per gallon that exceeds One Cent (1¢) per gallon on special fuel and 50 51 Five and One-fourth Cents (5.25¢) per gallon on special fuel used as aircraft fuel, from the portion of the excise tax on compressed 52 gas used as a motor fuel that exceeds the rate of tax in effect on 53 June 30, 1987, and from the portion of the gasoline excise tax in 54 excess of Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon and the diesel excise tax in 55 56 excess of Ten Cents (10¢) per gallon under Section 27-61-5 there shall be deducted: 57

58 1. An amount as provided in Section
59 27-65-75(4) to the credit of a special fund designated as the
60 "Office of State Aid Road Construction."

61 2. An amount equal to the tax collections
62 derived from Two Cents (2¢) per gallon of the gasoline excise tax

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for distribution to the State Highway Fund to be used exclusively 63 64 for the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways 65 of the State of Mississippi or the payment of interest and principal on bonds when specifically authorized by the Legislature 66 67 for that purpose.

The balance shall be deposited in the 68 3. State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund. 69

70 (b) Subject to the provisions that said basis of distribution shall in nowise affect adversely the amount 71 specifically pledged in paragraph (a) of this section to be paid 72 73 into the "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund," the following shall be deducted from the amount produced by the state tax on gasoline, 74 75 diesel fuel or kerosene tax collections, excluding collections derived from the portion of the gasoline excise tax that exceeds 76 77 Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon, from the portion of the tax on aviation gas under Section 27-55-11 that exceeds Six and 78 Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) per gallon, from the portion of the 79 80 special fuel tax levied under Sections 27-55-519 and 27-55-521, at Eighteen Cents (18¢) per gallon that exceeds Ten Cents (10¢) per 81 gallon, from the portion of the taxes levied under Section 82 27-55-519, at Five and Three-fourths Cents (5.75¢) per gallon that 83 84 exceeds One Cent (1¢) per gallon on special fuel and Five and One-fourth Cents (5.25¢) per gallon on special fuel used as 85 aircraft fuel, from the portion of the excise tax on compressed 86 87 gas used as a motor fuel that exceeds the rate of tax in effect on June 30, 1987, and from the portion of the gasoline excise tax in 88 89 excess of Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon and the diesel excise tax in excess of Ten Cents (10¢) per gallon under Section 27-61-5: 90 Twenty percent (20%) of such amount which 91 (i) shall be earmarked and set aside for the construction, 92 reconstruction and maintenance of the highways and roads of the 93 94 state, provided that if such twenty percent (20%) should reduce any county to a lesser amount than that received in the fiscal

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year ending June 30, 1966, then such twenty percent (20%) shall be 96 97 reduced to a percentage to provide that no county shall receive less than its portion for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966; 98 99 (ii) The amount allowed as refund on gasoline or 100 as tax credit on diesel fuel or kerosene used for agricultural, maritime, industrial, domestic, and nonhighway purposes; 101 102 (iii) Five percent (5%) of such amount shall be paid to the State Highway Fund; 103 104 (iv) The amount or portion thereof authorized by legislative appropriation to the Fisheries and Wildlife Fund 105 106 created under Section 59-21-25; (v) The amount for deposit into the special 107 aviation fund under paragraph (d) of this section; and 108 (vi) The remainder shall be divided on a basis of 109 nine-fourteenths (9/14) and five-fourteenths (5/14) (being the 110 same basis as Four and One-half Cents (4-1/2c) and Two and 111 One-half Cents (2-1/2¢) is to Seven Cents (7¢) on gasoline, and 112 113 six and forty-three one-hundredths (6.43) and three and fifty-seven one-hundredths (3.57) is to Ten Cents (10¢) on diesel 114 fuel or kerosene). The amount produced by the nine-fourteenths 115 (9/14) division shall be allocated to the Transportation 116 117 Department and paid into the State Treasury as provided in this section and in Section 27-5-103 and the five-fourteenths (5/14)118 division shall be returned to the counties of the state on the 119 120 following basis: In each fiscal year, each county shall be 121 1. 122 paid each month the same percentage of the monthly total to be distributed as was paid to that county during the same month in 123 the fiscal year which ended April 9, 1960, until the county 124 receives One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) in such 125 fiscal year, at which time funds shall be distributed under the 126 127 provisions of paragraph (b) (vi)4. of this section.

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If after payments in 1. above, any county 128 2. has not received a total of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars 129 (\$190,000.00) at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961, 130 131 and each fiscal year thereafter, then any available funds not 132 distributed under 1. above shall be used to bring such county or counties up to One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) 133 or such funds shall be divided equally among such counties not 134 reaching One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) if 135 there is not sufficient money to bring all the counties to said 136 One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00). 137 138 3. When a county has been paid an amount equal to the total which was paid to the same county during the 139 fiscal year ended April 9, 1960, such county shall receive no 140 further payments during the then current fiscal year until the 141 last month of such current fiscal year, at which time distribution 142 will be made under 2. above, except as set out in 4. below. 143 During the last month of the current 144 4. 145 fiscal year, should it be determined that there are funds available in excess of the amount distributed for the year under 146 147 1. and 2. above, then such excess funds shall be distributed among the various counties as follows: 148 One-third (1/3) of such excess to be 149 150 divided equally among the counties; One-third (1/3) of such excess to be paid 151 152 to the counties in the proportion which the population of each county bears to the total population of the state according to the 153 last federal census; 154 One-third (1/3) of such excess to be paid 155 to the counties in the proportion which the number of square miles 156 157 of each county bears to the total square miles in the state. 5. It is the declared purpose and intent of 158 159 the Legislature that no county shall be paid less than was paid 160 during the year ended April 9, 1960, unless the amount to be H. B. No. 237 01/HR40/R177

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161 distributed to all counties in any year is less than the amount 162 distributed to all counties during the year ended April 9, 1960.

163 The Municipal Aid Fund as established by Section 27-5-103 164 shall not participate in any portion of any funds allocated to any 165 county hereunder over and above One Hundred Ninety Thousand 166 Dollars (\$190,000.00).

167 In any county having countywide road or bridge bonds, or 168 supervisors district or district road or bridge bonds outstanding, 169 which exceed, in the aggregate, twelve percent (12%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county or 170 171 district, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than sixty percent (60%) of such county's share or 172 173 district's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes to 174 be used in paying the principal and interest on such road or 175 bridge bonds as they mature.

In any county having such countywide road or bridge bonds or 176 district road or bridge bonds outstanding which exceed, in the 177 178 aggregate, eight percent (8%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, but which do not exceed, in the 179 180 aggregate, twelve percent (12%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board 181 182 of supervisors to set aside not less than thirty-five percent (35%) of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or 183 kerosene taxes to be used in paying the principal and interest of 184 185 such road or bridge bonds as they mature.

In any county having such countywide road or bridge bonds or 186 187 district road or bridge bonds outstanding which exceed, in the aggregate, five percent (5%) of the assessed valuation of the 188 taxable property of the county, but which do not exceed, in the 189 190 aggregate, eight percent (8%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board 191 192 of supervisors to set aside not less than twenty percent (20%) of 193 such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes

H. B. No. 237 01/HR40/R177 PAGE 6 (JWB\BD) 194 to be used in paying the principal and interest of such road and 195 bridge bonds as they mature.

In any county having such countywide road or bridge bonds or 196 197 district road or bridge bonds outstanding which do not exceed, in 198 the aggregate, five percent (5%) of the assessed valuation of the 199 taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than ten percent (10%) of 200 such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes 201 202 to be used in paying the principal and interest on such road or bridge bonds as they mature. 203

204 The portion of any such county's share of the qasoline, 205 diesel fuel or kerosene taxes thus set aside for the payment of the principal and interest of road or bridge bonds, as provided 206 207 for in this section, shall be used first in paying the currently maturing installments of the principal and interest of such 208 countywide road or bridge bonds, if there be any such countywide 209 road or bridge bonds outstanding, and secondly, in paying the 210 211 currently maturing installments of principal and interest of district road or bridge bonds outstanding. It shall be the duty 212 213 of the board of supervisors to pay bonds and interest maturing in each supervisors district out of the supervisors district's share 214 215 of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes of such district.

The remaining portion of such county's share of the gasoline, 216 diesel fuel or kerosene taxes, after setting aside the portion 217 218 above provided for the payment of the principal and interest of bonds, shall be used in the construction and maintenance of any 219 public highways, bridges, or culverts of the county, including the 220 roads in special or separate road districts, in the discretion of 221 the board of supervisors, or in paying the interest and principal 222 of county road and bridge bonds or district road and bridge bonds, 223 in the discretion of the board of supervisors. 224

In any county having no countywide road or bridge bonds or district road or bridge bonds outstanding, all such county's share

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of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes shall be used in the construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of the public highways, bridges, or culverts of the county as the board of supervisors may determine.

In every county in which there are county road bonds or seawall or road protection bonds outstanding which were issued for the purpose of building bridges or constructing public roads or seawalls, such funds shall be used in the manner provided by law.

(c) From the amount produced by the nine-fourteenths
(9/14) division allocated to the Transportation Department, there
shall be deducted:

(i) The amount paid to the State Treasurer for the
"Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" under paragraph (a) of this section;
(ii) Any amounts due counties in accordance with
Section 65-33-45 which have outstanding bonds issued for seawall
or road protection purposes, issued under provisions of Chapter
319, Laws of 1924, and amendments thereto;

244 (iii) Beginning August 15, 2002, and on or before the fifteenth day of each month thereafter, an amount equal to 245 246 one-sixth (1/6) of the principal and interest certified by the 247 State Treasurer to the State Tax Commission to be due on the next 248 semiannual bond and interest payment date for the bonds issued under Sections 65-39-5 through 65-39-33. On or before the 249 twenty-fifth day of each month the State Tax Commission shall pay 250 251 into the State Treasury for credit to the Gaming Counties Bond Sinking Fund created in Section 65-39-3, the amount so certified 252 by the State Treasurer; 253

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in Section
31-17-127, the remainder shall be paid by the State Tax Commission
to the State Treasurer on the fifteenth day of each month next
succeeding the month in which the gasoline, diesel fuel or
kerosene taxes were collected to the credit of the State Highway
Fund.

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The funds allocated for the construction, reconstruction, and 260 261 improvement of state highways, bridges, and culverts, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall first be used in conjunction 262 263 with funds supplied by the federal government for such purposes 264 and allocated to the State Transportation Department to be 265 expended on the state highway system. It is specifically provided hereby that the necessary portion of such funds hereinabove 266 267 allocated to the State Transportation Department may be used for 268 the prompt payment of principal and interest on highway bonds heretofore issued, including such bonds issued or to be issued 269 270 under the provisions of Chapter 312, Laws of 1956, and amendments thereto. 271

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to 272 reduce the amount of such gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene excise 273 taxes levied by the state, allotted under the provisions of Title 274 65, Chapter 33, Mississippi Code of 1972, to counties in which 275 there are outstanding bonds issued for seawall or road protection 276 277 purposes issued under the provisions of Chapter 319, Laws of 1924, and amendments thereto; the amount of said gasoline, diesel fuel 278 279 or kerosene excise taxes designated in this section for the payment of bonds and interest authorized and issued or to be 280 281 issued under the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1938, and subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds payable from 282 gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue, shall, in such 283 284 counties, be considered as being paid "into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund" within the meaning of 285 286 Section 65-33-45 in computing the amount to be paid to such counties under the provisions of said section, and this section 287 shall be administered in connection with Title 65, Chapter 33, 288 Mississippi Code of 1972, and Sections 65-33-45, 65-33-47 and 289 65-33-49 dealing with seawalls, as if made a part of this section. 290 291 (d) The proceeds of the Five and One-fourth Cents

292 (5.25¢) of the tax per gallon on oils used as a propellant for jet

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aircraft engines, and Six and Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) of the tax 293 294 per gallon on aviation gasoline and the tax of One Cent (1¢) per gallon for each gallon of gasoline for which a refund has been 295 296 made pursuant to Section 27-55-23 because such qasoline was used 297 for aviation purposes, shall be paid to the State Treasury into a 298 special fund to be used exclusively, pursuant to legislative appropriation, for the support and development of aeronautics as 299 defined in Section 61-1-3. 300

(e) State highway funds in an amount equal to the
difference between Forty-two Million Dollars (\$42,000,000.00) and
the annual debt service payable on the state's highway revenue
refunding bonds, Series 1985, shall be expended for the
construction, reconstruction or pavement maintenance of highways
designated under the Four-Lane Highway Program created under
Section 65-3-97.

(f) "Gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes" as used in this section shall be deemed to mean and include state gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes levied and imposed on distributors of gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene, and all state excise taxes derived from any fuel used to propel vehicles upon the highways of this state, when levied by any statute.

[With regard to any county which is required to operate on a countywide system of road administration as described in Section 19-2-3, this section shall read as follows:]

317 27-5-101. Unless otherwise provided in this section, on or 318 before the fifteenth day of each month, all gasoline, diesel fuel 319 or kerosene taxes which are levied under the laws of this state 320 and collected during the previous month shall be paid and 321 apportioned by the State Tax Commission as follows:

(a) (i) Except as otherwise provided in Section
31-17-127, from the gross amount of gasoline, diesel fuel or
kerosene taxes produced by the state, there shall be deducted an
amount equal to one-sixth (1/6) of principal and interest

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certified by the State Treasurer to the State Tax Commission to be 326 327 due on the next semiannual bond and interest payment date, as required under the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1938, and 328 329 subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds payable from 330 gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue on a parity with the bonds issued under authority of said Chapter 130. The State 331 Treasurer shall certify to the State Tax Commission on or before 332 the fifteenth day of each month the amount to be paid to the 333 "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" as provided by said Chapter 130, Laws 334 of 1938, and subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds 335 336 payable from gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue, on a parity with the bonds issued under authority of said Chapter 130; 337 338 and the State Tax Commission shall, on or before the twenty-fifth day of each month, pay into the State Treasury for credit to the 339 "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" the amount so certified to him by the 340 State Treasurer due to be paid into such fund each month. 341 The payments to the "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" shall be made out of 342 343 gross gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax collections before deductions of any nature are considered; however, such payments 344 345 shall be deducted from the allocation to the Transportation Department under paragraph (c) of this section. 346

347 (ii) From collections derived from the portion of 348 the gasoline excise tax that exceeds Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon, from the portion of the tax on aviation gas under Section 27-55-11 349 350 that exceeds Six and Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) per gallon, from the portion of the special fuel tax levied under Sections 27-55-519 351 and 27-55-521, at Eighteen Cents (18¢) per gallon that exceeds Ten 352 Cents (10¢) per gallon, from the portion of the taxes levied under 353 Section 27-55-519, at Five and Three-fourths Cents (5.75¢) per 354 355 gallon that exceeds One Cent (1¢) per gallon on special fuel and Five and One-fourth Cents (5.25¢) per gallon on special fuel used 356 357 as aircraft fuel, from the portion of the excise tax on compressed 358 gas used as a motor fuel that exceeds the rate of tax in effect on

H. B. No. 237 01/HR40/R177 PAGE 11 (JWB\BD) June 30, 1987, and from the portion of the gasoline excise tax in excess of Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon and the diesel excise tax in excess of Ten Cents (10¢) per gallon under Section 27-61-5 there shall be deducted:

363 1. An amount as provided in Section 364 27-65-75(4) to the credit of a special fund designated as the 365 "Office of State Aid Road Construction."

2. An amount equal to the tax collections derived from Two Cents (2¢) per gallon of the gasoline excise tax for distribution to the State Highway Fund to be used exclusively for the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways of the State of Mississippi or the payment of interest and principal on bonds when specifically authorized by the Legislature for that purpose.

373 3. The balance shall be deposited in the 374 State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund.

Subject to the provisions that said basis of 375 (b) distribution shall in nowise affect adversely the amount 376 specifically pledged in paragraph (a) of this section to be paid 377 378 into the "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund," the following shall be 379 deducted from the amount produced by the state tax on gasoline, 380 diesel fuel or kerosene tax collections, excluding collections derived from the portion of the gasoline excise tax that exceeds 381 Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon, from the portion of the tax on 382 383 aviation gas under Section 27-55-11 that exceeds Six and Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) per gallon, from the portion of the 384 special fuel tax levied under Sections 27-55-519 and 27-55-521, at 385 Eighteen Cents (18¢) per gallon, that exceeds Ten Cents (10¢) per 386 gallon, from the portion of the taxes levied under Section 387 388 27-55-519, at Five and Three-fourths Cents (5.75¢) that exceeds One Cent (1¢) per gallon on special fuel and Five and One-fourth 389 390 Cents (5.25¢) per gallon on special fuel used as aircraft fuel, 391 from the portion of the excise tax on compressed gas used as a

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1987, and from the portion of the gasoline excise tax in excess of 393 Seven Cents (7¢) per gallon and the diesel excise tax in excess of 394 395 Ten Cents (10¢) per gallon under Section 27-61-5: 396 (i) Twenty percent (20%) of such amount which shall be earmarked and set aside for the construction, 397 reconstruction and maintenance of the highways and roads of the 398 state, provided that if such twenty percent (20%) should reduce 399 any county to a lesser amount than that received in the fiscal 400 year ending June 30, 1966, then such twenty percent (20%) shall be 401 402 reduced to a percentage to provide that no county shall receive less than its portion for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966; 403 404 (ii) The amount allowed as refund on gasoline or 405 as tax credit on diesel fuel or kerosene used for agricultural, maritime, industrial, domestic and nonhighway purposes; 406 407 (iii) Five percent (5%) of such amount shall be paid to the State Highway Fund; 408 409 (iv) The amount or portion thereof authorized by legislative appropriation to the Fisheries and Wildlife Fund 410 411 created under Section 59-21-25; (v) The amount for deposit into the special 412 413 aviation fund under paragraph (d) of this section; and (vi) The remainder shall be divided on a basis of 414 nine-fourteenths (9/14) and five-fourteenths (5/14) (being the 415 416 same basis as Four and One-half Cents (4-1/2¢) and Two and One-half Cents (2-1/2¢) is to Seven Cents (7¢) on gasoline, and 417 six and forty-three one-hundredths (6.43) and three and 418 fifty-seven one-hundredths (3.57) is to Ten Cents (10¢) on diesel 419 fuel or kerosene). The amount produced by the nine-fourteenths 420 421 (9/14) division shall be allocated to the Transportation

motor fuel that exceeds the rate of tax in effect on June 30,

Department and paid into the State Treasury as provided in this section and in Section 27-5-103 and the five-fourteenths (5/14)

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424 division shall be returned to the counties of the state on the 425 following basis:

1. In each fiscal year, each county shall be paid each month the same percentage of the monthly total to be distributed as was paid to that county during the same month in the fiscal year which ended April 9, 1960, until the county receives One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) in such fiscal year, at which time funds shall be distributed under the provisions of paragraph (b) (vi)4. of this section.

2. If after payments in 1. above, any county 433 434 has not received a total of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961, 435 and each fiscal year thereafter, then any available funds not 436 437 distributed under 1. above shall be used to bring such county or counties up to One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) 438 or such funds shall be divided equally among such counties not 439 reaching One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) if 440 441 there is not sufficient money to bring all the counties to said 442 One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00).

443 3. When a county has been paid an amount 444 equal to the total which was paid to the same county during the fiscal year ended April 9, 1960, such county shall receive no 445 further payments during the then current fiscal year until the 446 last month of such current fiscal year, at which time distribution 447 448 will be made under 2. above, except as set out in 4. below. During the last month of the current 449 4. fiscal year, should it be determined that there are funds 450 451 available in excess of the amount distributed for the year under 452 1. and 2. above, then such excess funds shall be distributed among 453 the various counties as follows:

454 One-third (1/3) of such excess to be 455 divided equally among the counties;

H. B. No. 237 01/HR40/R177 PAGE 14 (JWB\BD) 456 One-third (1/3) of such excess to be paid 457 to the counties in the proportion which the population of each 458 county bears to the total population of the state according to the 459 last federal census;

One-third (1/3) of such excess to be paid to the counties in the proportion which the number of square miles of each county bears to the total square miles in the state.

463 5. It is the declared purpose and intent of the Legislature that no county shall be paid less than was paid 464 during the year ended April 9, 1960, unless the amount to be 465 466 distributed to all counties in any year is less than the amount 467 distributed to all counties during the year ended April 9, 1960. 468 The Municipal Aid Fund as established by Section 27-5-103 469 shall not participate in any portion of any funds allocated to any 470 county hereunder over and above One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00). 471

In any county having road or bridge bonds outstanding which exceed, in the aggregate, twelve percent (12%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than sixty percent (60%) of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes to be used in paying the principal and interest on such road or bridge bonds as they mature.

In any county having such road or bridge bonds outstanding 479 480 which exceed, in the aggregate, eight percent (8%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, but which do not 481 exceed, in the aggregate, twelve percent (12%) of the assessed 482 483 valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than 484 485 thirty-five percent (35%) of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes to be used in paying the principal 486 487 and interest of such road or bridge bonds as they mature.

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In any county having such road or bridge bonds outstanding 488 which exceed, in the aggregate, five percent (5%) of the assessed 489 valuation of the taxable property of the county, but which do not 490 491 exceed, in the aggregate, eight percent (8%) of the assessed 492 valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than twenty 493 percent (20%) of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel 494 495 or kerosene taxes to be used in paying the principal and interest of such road and bridge bonds as they mature. 496

In any county having such road or bridge bonds outstanding which do not exceed, in the aggregate, five percent (5%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to set aside not less than ten percent (10%) of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes to be used in paying the principal and interest on such road or bridge bonds as they mature.

The portion of any such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes thus set aside for the payment of the principal and interest of road or bridge bonds, as provided for in this section, shall be used in paying the currently maturing installments of the principal and interest of such road or bridge bonds, if there be any such road or bridge bonds outstanding.

The remaining portion of such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes, after setting aside the portion above provided for the payment of the principal and interest of bonds, shall be used in the construction and maintenance of any public highways, bridges or culverts of the county, in the discretion of the board of supervisors.

517 In any county having no road or bridge bonds outstanding, all 518 such county's share of the gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes 519 shall be used in the construction, reconstruction and maintenance

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520 of the public highways, bridges or culverts of the county, as the 521 board of supervisors may determine.

522 In every county in which there are county road bonds or 523 seawall or road protection bonds outstanding which were issued for 524 the purpose of building bridges or constructing public roads or 525 seawalls, such funds shall be used in the manner provided by law.

(c) From the amount produced by the nine-fourteenths
(9/14) division allocated to the Transportation Department, there
shall be deducted:

529 (i) The amount paid to the State Treasurer for the530 "Highway Bonds Sinking Fund" under paragraph (a) of this section;

(ii) Any amounts due counties in accordance with S2 Section 65-33-45 which have outstanding bonds issued for seawall or road protection purposes, issued under provisions of Chapter 319, Laws of 1924, and amendments thereto; and

Beginning August 15, 2002, and on or before 535 (iii) the fifteenth day of each month thereafter, an amount equal to 536 537 one-sixth (1/6) of the principal and interest certified by the State Treasurer to the State Tax Commission to be due on the next 538 539 semiannual bond and interest payment date for the bonds issued 540 under Sections 65-39-5 through 65-39-33. On or before the 541 twenty-fifth day of each month the State Tax Commission shall pay 542 into the State Treasury for credit to the Gaming Counties Bond Sinking Fund created in Section 65-39-3, the amount certified by 543 544 the State Treasurer;

545 (iv) Except as otherwise provided in Section 546 31-17-127, the remainder shall be paid by the State Tax Commission 547 to the State Treasurer on the fifteenth day of each month next 548 succeeding the month in which the gasoline, diesel fuel or 549 kerosene taxes were collected to the credit of the State Highway 550 Fund.

551 The funds allocated for the construction, reconstruction and 552 improvement of state highways, bridges and culverts, or so much

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thereof as may be necessary, shall first be used in conjunction 553 with funds supplied by the federal government for such purposes 554 and allocated to the Transportation Department to be expended on 555 556 the state highway system. It is specifically provided hereby that 557 the necessary portion of such funds hereinabove allocated to the Transportation Department may be used for the prompt payment of 558 principal and interest on highway bonds heretofore issued, 559 560 including such bonds issued or to be issued under the provisions of Chapter 312, Laws of 1956, and amendments thereto. 561

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to 562 563 reduce the amount of such qasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene excise taxes levied by the state, allotted under the provisions of Title 564 65, Chapter 33, Mississippi Code of 1972, to counties in which 565 566 there are outstanding bonds issued for seawall or road protection purposes issued under the provisions of Chapter 319, Laws of 1924, 567 and amendments thereto; the amount of said gasoline, diesel fuel 568 or kerosene excise taxes designated in this section for the 569 570 payment of bonds and interest authorized and issued or to be issued under the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1938, and 571 572 subsequent acts authorizing the issuance of bonds payable from gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene tax revenue, shall, in such 573 574 counties, be considered as being paid "into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund" within the meaning of 575 Section 65-33-45 in computing the amount to be paid to such 576 577 counties under the provisions of said section, and this section shall be administered in connection with Title 65, Chapter 33, 578 Mississippi Code of 1972, and Sections 65-33-45, 65-33-47 and 579 580 65-33-49 dealing with seawalls, as if made a part of this section.

(d) The proceeds of the Five and One-fourth Cents
(5.25¢) of the tax per gallon on oils used as a propellant for jet
aircraft engines, and Six and Four-tenths Cents (6.4¢) of the tax
per gallon on aviation gasoline and the tax of One Cent (1¢) per
gallon for each gallon of gasoline for which a refund has been

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586 made pursuant to Section 27-55-23 because such gasoline was used 587 for aviation purposes, shall be paid to the State Treasury into a 588 special fund to be used exclusively, pursuant to legislative 589 appropriation, for the support and development of aeronautics as 590 defined in Section 61-1-3.

(e) State highway funds in an amount equal to the difference between Forty-two Million Dollars (\$42,000,000.00) and the annual debt service payable on the state's highway revenue refunding bonds, Series 1985, shall be expended for the construction, reconstruction <u>or pavement maintenance</u> of highways designated under the Four-Lane Highway Program created under Section 65-3-97.

(f) "Gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes" as used in this section shall be deemed to mean and include state gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes levied and imposed on distributors of gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene, and all state excise taxes derived from any fuel used to propel vehicles upon the highways of this state, when levied by any statute.

604 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 605 and after July 1, 2001.