By: Representative Ellington

To: Conservation and Water Resources

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-17-68, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO ALLOW THE INTEREST THAT ACCRUES ON THE POLLUTION EMERGENCY FUND 3 TO BE CREDITED TO THE BALANCE OF THAT FUND; AND FOR RELATED 4 PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 6 SECTION 1. Section 49-17-68, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 7 amended as follows:

49-17-68. The Pollution Emergency Fund is hereby created in 8 9 the State Treasury. All fines, penalties or other money recovered or collected by the commission under Sections 17-17-29 and 10 49-17-43 shall be deposited into appropriate accounts in such 11 fund. The commission is further authorized to receive and accept 12 additional funds from any other source to be deposited into the 13 Pollution Emergency Fund. The commission is authorized to utilize 14 any funds in the Pollution Emergency Fund for the purpose of 15 mitigation, abatement, clean-up or other remedial actions and 16 17 related technical investigations involving the introduction of pollutants, including hazardous wastes, upon or into the land, air 18 or waters of this state and may be used for the purpose of 19 providing the required state matching funds to assist the U.S. 20 Environmental Protection Agency in furtherance of its remedial 21 clean-up program. When the acceptance of such funds by the 22 commission is conditioned on the return of those funds to the 23 grantor after use and recovery, such funds shall be returned to 24 the grantor. The fund shall be treated as a special trust fund. 25 Interest earned on the principal shall be credited by the 26

27 <u>Treasurer to the fund.</u>

H. B. No. 351 01/HR07/R928 PAGE 1 (PBR\HS) G1/2

28 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 29 and after July 1, 2001.