

By: Representative Zuber

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 701

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 65-39-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
 2 REVISE THE PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE GAMING COUNTIES STATE-ASSISTED  
 3 INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE ANY PROJECT AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS  
 4 ON, ALONG AND APPROACHING U.S. HIGHWAY 90 IN THE CITY OF OCEAN  
 5 SPRINGS WHICH THE MISSISSIPPI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION DETERMINES  
 6 WILL ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THE CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS;  
 7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 65-39-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 10 amended as follows:

11 65-39-1. (1) The Mississippi Transportation Commission is  
 12 authorized, subject to the availability of funds in the Gaming  
 13 Counties State-Assisted Infrastructure Fund created in Section  
 14 65-39-17, to conduct feasibility studies and, pursuant to  
 15 information gathered in such studies, select routes and locations,  
 16 perform preliminary engineering, acquire necessary right-of-way  
 17 and property, construct and/or reconstruct and improve existing or  
 18 new highways, roads, streets and bridges, including two-lane,  
 19 four-lane and multi-lane roads (or segments thereof), perform  
 20 intersection improvements, provide signal retiring, turnbay  
 21 extensions, additional interchanges and other traffic  
 22 modifications, within and approaching those counties in this state  
 23 where legal gaming is being conducted or is authorized. Any  
 24 highway, road, street or bridge that is authorized to be  
 25 constructed, reconstructed or improved shall meet design standards  
 26 established by the Mississippi Department of Transportation, shall  
 27 be constructed to bear a load limit of at least eighty thousand  
 28 (80,000) pounds and, upon completion, shall become a part of the  
 29 state highway system, and thereafter shall be under the



30 jurisdiction of the Mississippi Transportation Commission and the  
31 Mississippi Department of Transportation for construction and  
32 maintenance.

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

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

40 (b) Mississippi 4 from U.S. Highway 61 to Mississippi  
41 3;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

67 (iii) Four-lanes for traffic along Mississippi 16  
68 beginning at the Leake/Neshoba county line and extending easterly  
69 to not more than ten (10) miles east of Mississippi 15;

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

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

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

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

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

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

87 (q) Mississippi 43 beginning where Mississippi 43 and  
88 Mississippi 603 divide and extending northwesterly to or near  
89 Picayune;

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

92 (s) Subject to the conditions prescribed in subsection  
93 (3) of this section, a central Harrison County connector from I-10



94 to U.S. 90 in the vicinity of Canal Road to the Mississippi State  
95 Port at Gulfport; \* \* \*

96 (t) An east Harrison County connector from U.S. 90 to  
97 I-10 to be located between the Cowan-Lorraine Road interchange and  
98 the I-110 interchange; and

99 (u) At various locations on, along and approaching U.S.  
100 Highway 90 in the City of Ocean Springs which the Mississippi  
101 Transportation Commission determines will alleviate traffic  
102 congestion in the City of Ocean Springs.

103 (3) Authorization for the project described in paragraph  
104 (2)(s) of this section is conditioned upon receipt by the  
105 Mississippi Transportation Commission of a written commitment by  
106 the Mississippi Development Authority to make available for such  
107 project not less than Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000.00).

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

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



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

131                   **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
132 and after July 1, 2002.

