

By: Representatives Creel, Barnett (116th),
Broomfield, Dedeaux, Fredericks, Guice,
Hamilton, Ishee, Janus, Peranich, Read,
Wells-Smith, Zuber

To: Conservation and Water
Resources; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1331

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE
3 RESOURCES FROM THE PUBLIC TRUST TIDELANDS FUND THAT ARE DESIGNATED
4 IN LINE ITEMS OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL FOR MANAGEMENT PROJECTS OR
5 PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECTS SHALL NOT BE PAID TO AN ENTITY NAMED IN THE
6 BILL TO RECEIVE FUNDS FOR A DESIGNATED PROJECT UNTIL THE ENTITY
7 HAS MADE EXPENDITURES FOR THE PROJECT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 29-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 29-15-9. (1) There is * * * created in the State Treasury a
12 special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Fund."
13 The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State as
14 trustee.

15 (2) Any funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and
16 submerged lands, except those funds derived from mineral leases,
17 or funds previously specifically designated to be applied to other
18 agencies, shall be transferred to the special fund. However,
19 funds derived from lease rentals may be used to cover the
20 administrative cost incurred by the Secretary of State. Any
21 remaining funds derived from lease rentals shall be disbursed pro
22 rata to the local taxing authorities for the replacement of lost
23 ad valorem taxes, if any. Then, any remaining funds shall be
24 disbursed to the commission for new and extra programs of
25 tidelands management, such as conservation, reclamation,
26 preservation, acquisition, education or the enhancement of public
27 access to the public trust tidelands or public improvement
28 projects as they relate to those lands.



29 (3) Any funds appropriated to the Commission on Marine
30 Resources or the Department of Marine Resources from the Public
31 Trust Tidelands Fund that are designated in line items of the
32 appropriation bill for management projects, public access projects
33 or public improvement projects, as authorized under subsection (2)
34 of this section, shall not be paid to an entity named in the bill
35 to receive funds for a designated project until the entity has
36 made expenditures for the project. The commission or department
37 shall use the funds allocated in the bill for each designated
38 project to reimburse the entity named for that project for
39 expenditures made by the entity on the project. An entity may be
40 reimbursed from the appropriated funds only after the entity has
41 provided the commission or department with detailed written
42 invoices showing the amount and purpose of the expenditures for
43 which the entity is seeking reimbursement.

44 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after its passage.

