

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 3118

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
2 OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPANSION OF THE
3 PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
4 RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE UNDERWOOD BUILDING; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** As used in this act, the following words shall
8 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context clearly
9 requires otherwise:

10 (a) "Accreted value" of any bond means, as of any date
11 of computation, an amount equal to the sum of (i) the stated
12 initial value of such bond, plus (ii) the interest accrued thereon
13 from the issue date to the date of computation at the rate,
14 compounded semiannually, that is necessary to produce the
15 approximate yield to maturity shown for bonds of the same
16 maturity.

17 (b) "State" means the State of Mississippi.

18 (c) "Commission" means the State Bond Commission.

19 **SECTION 2.** (1) (a) A special fund, to be designated as the
20 "Mississippi Public Health Laboratory and Underwood Building
21 Expansion, Repair and Renovation Fund," is created within the
22 State Treasury. The fund shall be maintained by the State
23 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
24 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
25 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
26 State General Fund, and any interest earned or investment earnings
27 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the



28 fund. Monies in the fund may not be used or expended for any
29 purpose except as authorized under this act.

30 (b) Monies deposited into the fund shall be disbursed,
31 in the discretion of the Department of Finance and Administration,
32 to pay the costs of expanding the public health laboratory of the
33 Department of Health, the cost of renovation and/or repair of the
34 Underwood Building necessitated by such expansion and the cost of
35 expansion of the Underwood Building to secure high quality
36 teleconferencing and telemedicine capability related to public
37 health preparedness and for additional office space for
38 epidemiology staff.

39 (2) Amounts deposited into such special fund shall be
40 disbursed to pay the costs of the projects described in subsection
41 (1) of this section. Promptly after the commission has certified,
42 by resolution duly adopted, that the projects described in
43 subsection (1) of this section shall have been completed,
44 abandoned, or cannot be completed in a timely fashion, any amounts
45 remaining in such special fund shall be applied to pay debt
46 service on the bonds issued under this act, in accordance with the
47 proceedings authorizing the issuance of such bonds and as directed
48 by the commission.

49 (3) The Department of Finance and Administration, acting
50 through the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property
51 Management, is expressly authorized and empowered to receive and
52 expend any local or other source funds in connection with the
53 expenditure of funds provided for in this section. The
54 expenditure of monies deposited into the special fund shall be
55 under the direction of the Department of Finance and
56 Administration, and such funds shall be paid by the State
57 Treasurer upon warrants issued by such department, which warrants
58 shall be issued upon requisitions signed by the Executive Director
59 of the Department of Finance and Administration, or his designee.



60 (4) The Department of Finance and Administration is
61 authorized to pay for the costs of capital improvements specified
62 in subsection (1)(b) of this section.

63 **SECTION 3.** (1) The commission, at one time or from time to
64 time, may declare by resolution the necessity for issuance of
65 general obligation bonds of the State of Mississippi to provide
66 funds for all costs incurred or to be incurred for the purposes
67 described in Section 2 of this act. Upon the adoption of a
68 resolution by the Department of Finance and Administration,
69 declaring the necessity for the issuance of any part or all of the
70 general obligation bonds authorized by this section, the
71 Department of Finance and Administration shall deliver a certified
72 copy of its resolution or resolutions to the commission. Upon
73 receipt of such resolution, the commission, in its discretion, may
74 act as the issuing agent, prescribe the form of the bonds,
75 advertise for and accept bids, issue and sell the bonds so
76 authorized to be sold and do any and all other things necessary
77 and advisable in connection with the issuance and sale of such
78 bonds. The total amount of bonds issued under this act shall not
79 exceed Eight Million Dollars (\$8,000,000.00).

80 (2) Any investment earnings on amounts deposited into the
81 special fund created in Section 2 of this act shall be used to pay
82 debt service on bonds issued under this act, in accordance with
83 the proceedings authorizing issuance of such bonds.

84 **SECTION 4.** The principal of and interest on the bonds
85 authorized under this act shall be payable in the manner provided
86 in this section. Such bonds shall bear such date or dates, be in
87 such denomination or denominations, bear interest at such rate or
88 rates (not to exceed the limits set forth in Section 75-17-101,
89 Mississippi Code of 1972), be payable at such place or places
90 within or without the State of Mississippi, shall mature
91 absolutely at such time or times not to exceed twenty-five (25)
92 years from date of issue, be redeemable before maturity at such



93 time or times and upon such terms, with or without premium, shall
94 bear such registration privileges, and shall be substantially in
95 such form, all as shall be determined by resolution of the
96 commission.

97 **SECTION 5.** The bonds authorized by this act shall be signed
98 by the chairman of the commission, or by his facsimile signature,
99 and the official seal of the commission shall be affixed thereto,
100 attested by the secretary of the commission. The interest
101 coupons, if any, to be attached to such bonds may be executed by
102 the facsimile signatures of such officers. Whenever any such
103 bonds shall have been signed by the officials designated to sign
104 the bonds who were in office at the time of such signing but who
105 may have ceased to be such officers before the sale and delivery
106 of such bonds, or who may not have been in office on the date such
107 bonds may bear, the signatures of such officers upon such bonds
108 and coupons shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all
109 purposes and have the same effect as if the person so officially
110 signing such bonds had remained in office until their delivery to
111 the purchaser, or had been in office on the date such bonds may
112 bear. However, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary,
113 such bonds may be issued as provided in the Registered Bond Act of
114 the State of Mississippi.

115 **SECTION 6.** All bonds and interest coupons issued under the
116 provisions of this act have all the qualities and incidents of
117 negotiable instruments under the provisions of the Uniform
118 Commercial Code, and in exercising the powers granted by this act,
119 the commission shall not be required to and need not comply with
120 the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code.

121 **SECTION 7.** The commission shall act as the issuing agent for
122 the bonds authorized under this act, prescribe the form of the
123 bonds, advertise for and accept bids, issue and sell the bonds so
124 authorized to be sold, pay all fees and costs incurred in such
125 issuance and sale, and do any and all other things necessary and



126 advisable in connection with the issuance and sale of such bonds.
127 The commission is authorized and empowered to pay the costs that
128 are incident to the sale, issuance and delivery of the bonds
129 authorized under this act from the proceeds derived from the sale
130 of such bonds. The commission shall sell such bonds on sealed
131 bids at public sale, and for such price as it may determine to be
132 for the best interest of the State of Mississippi, but no such
133 sale shall be made at a price less than par plus accrued interest
134 to the date of delivery of the bonds to the purchaser. All
135 interest accruing on such bonds so issued shall be payable
136 semiannually or annually; however, the first interest payment may
137 be for any period of not more than one (1) year.

138 Notice of the sale of any such bond shall be published at
139 least one (1) time, not less than ten (10) days before the date of
140 sale, and shall be so published in one or more newspapers
141 published or having a general circulation in the City of Jackson,
142 Mississippi, and in one or more other newspapers or financial
143 journals with a national circulation, to be selected by the
144 commission.

145 The commission, when issuing any bonds under the authority of
146 this act, may provide that bonds, at the option of the State of
147 Mississippi, may be called in for payment and redemption at the
148 call price named therein and accrued interest on such date or
149 dates named therein.

150 **SECTION 8.** The bonds issued under the provisions of this act
151 are general obligations of the State of Mississippi, and for the
152 payment thereof the full faith and credit of the State of
153 Mississippi is irrevocably pledged. If the funds appropriated by
154 the Legislature are insufficient to pay the principal of and the
155 interest on such bonds as they become due, then the deficiency
156 shall be paid by the State Treasurer from any funds in the State
157 Treasury not otherwise appropriated. All such bonds shall contain



158 recitals on their faces substantially covering the provisions of
159 this section.

160 **SECTION 9.** Upon the issuance and sale of bonds under the
161 provisions of this act, the commission shall transfer the proceeds
162 of any such sale or sales to the special fund created in Section 2
163 of this act. The proceeds of such bonds shall be disbursed solely
164 upon the order of the Department of Finance and Administration
165 under such restrictions, if any, as may be contained in the
166 resolution providing for the issuance of the bonds.

167 **SECTION 10.** The bonds authorized under this act may be
168 issued without any other proceedings or the happening of any other
169 conditions or things other than those proceedings, conditions and
170 things which are specified or required by this act. Any
171 resolution providing for the issuance of bonds under the
172 provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon its
173 adoption by the commission, and any such resolution may be adopted
174 at any regular or special meeting of the commission by a majority
175 of its members.

176 **SECTION 11.** The bonds authorized under the authority of this
177 act may be validated in the Chancery Court of the First Judicial
178 District of Hinds County, Mississippi, in the manner and with the
179 force and effect provided by Chapter 13, Title 31, Mississippi
180 Code of 1972, for the validation of county, municipal, school
181 district and other bonds. The notice to taxpayers required by
182 such statutes shall be published in a newspaper published or
183 having a general circulation in the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

184 **SECTION 12.** Any holder of bonds issued under the provisions
185 of this act or of any of the interest coupons pertaining thereto
186 may, either at law or in equity, by suit, action, mandamus or
187 other proceeding, protect and enforce any and all rights granted
188 under this act, or under such resolution, and may enforce and
189 compel performance of all duties required by this act to be



190 performed, in order to provide for the payment of bonds and
191 interest thereon.

192 **SECTION 13.** All bonds issued under the provisions of this
193 act shall be legal investments for trustees and other fiduciaries,
194 and for savings banks, trust companies and insurance companies
195 organized under the laws of the State of Mississippi, and such
196 bonds shall be legal securities which may be deposited with and
197 shall be received by all public officers and bodies of this state
198 and all municipalities and political subdivisions for the purpose
199 of securing the deposit of public funds.

200 **SECTION 14.** Bonds issued under the provisions of this act
201 and income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the
202 State of Mississippi.

203 **SECTION 15.** The proceeds of the bonds issued under this act
204 shall be used solely for the purposes herein provided, including
205 the costs incident to the issuance and sale of such bonds.

206 **SECTION 16.** The State Treasurer is authorized, without
207 further process of law, to certify to the Department of Finance
208 and Administration the necessity for warrants, and the Department
209 of Finance and Administration is authorized and directed to issue
210 such warrants, in such amounts as may be necessary to pay when due
211 the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, or the
212 accreted value of, all bonds issued under this act; and the State
213 Treasurer shall forward the necessary amount to the designated
214 place or places of payment of such bonds in ample time to
215 discharge such bonds, or the interest thereon, on the due dates
216 thereof.

217 **SECTION 17.** This act shall be deemed to be full and complete
218 authority for the exercise of the powers herein granted, but this
219 act shall not be deemed to repeal or to be in derogation of any
220 existing law of this state.

221 **SECTION 18.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
222 and after its passage.

