By: Representative Ishee

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 396

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF ANY MUNICIPALITY TO IMPOSE A SPECIAL SALES TAX OF NOT MORE THAN ONE 3 PERCENT ON THE GROSS PROCEEDS OF ALL SALES OR THE GROSS INCOME OF BUSINESSES IN THE MUNICIPALITY DERIVED FROM ACTIVITIES TAXED AT THE RATE OF SEVEN PERCENT OR MORE UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI SALES TAX LAW; TO PROVIDE THAT THE SPECIAL SALES TAX SHALL NOT BE LEVIED 6 UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY AT LEAST THREE-FIFTHS OF THE VOTES CAST AT AN 7 8 ELECTION CALLED AND HELD FOR SUCH PURPOSE; TO AUTHORIZE A MUNICIPALITY TO INCUR INDEBTEDNESS IN AN AMOUNT NOT GREATER THAN 9 10 AN AMOUNT FOR WHICH DEBT SERVICE IS CAPABLE OF BEING FUNDED BY THE PROCEEDS OF THE SPECIAL SALES TAX; TO PROVIDE THAT THE SPECIAL 11 SALES TAX REVENUE COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SUCH A TAX SHALL BE USED 12 AND EXPENDED BY THE MUNICIPALITY ONLY TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AND/OR OTHER 13 14 CAPITAL PROJECTS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISCONTINUANCE OF THE SPECIAL 15 SALES TAX UPON COMPLETION OF THE FUNDING OF THE CONSTRUCTION FOR 16 WHICH THE TAX WAS LEVIED; TO AMEND SECTIONS 21-33-303 AND 17 27-65-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR 18 RELATED PURPOSES. 19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 20 21 SECTION 1. The governing authorities of any municipality may impose upon all persons as a privilege for engaging or continuing 22 in business or doing business within such municipality, a special 23 sales tax at the rate of not more than one percent (1%) of the 24 gross proceeds of sales or gross income of the business, as the 25 26 case may be, derived from any of the activities taxed at the rate of seven percent (7%) or more under the Mississippi Sales Tax Law, 27 Section 27-65-1 et seq., as provided hereinafter. The tax levied 28 29 under this section shall apply to every person making sales, delivery or installations of tangible personal property or 30 services within any municipality which has adopted the levy herein 31 authorized but shall not apply to sales exempted by Sections 32 27-65-19, 27-65-101, 27-65-103, 27-65-105, 27-65-107, 27-65-109 33

and 27-65-111 of the Mississippi Sales Tax Law.

SECTION 2. (1) The governing authorities of the 35 36 municipality shall specify in the resolution ordering the election required by subsection (2) of this section, the specific 37 38 transportation infrastructure projects or other capital projects, 39 or both, that the revenue collected pursuant to the tax levy may 40 be used and expended to construct. The tax levy authorized herein shall not be made unless 41 (2) authorized by at least three-fifths (3/5) of the votes cast at an 42 election to be called and held for that purpose. Notice of such 43 election shall be given, the election shall be held and the result 44 45 thereof determined, as far as is practicable, in the same manner as other elections are held in the municipality. At such 46 47 election, all qualified electors of the municipality may vote. The ballots used at such election shall have printed thereon a 48 brief description of the sales tax, the amount of the sales tax 49 levy, a description of the specific transportation infrastructure 50 projects or other capital projects, or both, that the tax revenue 51

52 may be used and expended to construct and the words "FOR THE LOCAL SALES TAX" and "AGAINST THE LOCAL SALES TAX" and the voter shall 53 54 vote by placing a cross (X) or check mark (♥) opposite his choice on the proposition. When the results of the election have been 55 56 canvassed by the election commissioners of the municipality and 57 certified by them to the governing authorities, it shall be the duty of such governing authorities to determine and adjudicate 58 59 whether at least three-fifths (3/5) of the qualified electors who voted in such election voted in favor of the tax. If the election 60 61 results in favor of the levy, the governing authorities shall adopt a resolution declaring the levy and collection of the tax 62 provided in Sections 1 through 3 of this act and shall set the 63

first day of the second month following the date of such adoption

as the effective date of the tax levy. A certified copy of this

resolution together with the result of the election shall be

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- 67 furnished to the State Tax Commission not less than thirty (30)
- 68 days before the effective date of the levy.
- 69 **SECTION 3.** (1) The special sales tax authorized by Sections
- 70 1 through 3 of this act shall be collected by the State Tax
- 71 Commission, shall be accounted for separately from the amount of
- 72 sales tax collected for the state in the municipality and shall be
- 73 paid to the municipality in which collected. Payments to the
- 74 municipalities shall be made by the State Tax Commission on or
- 75 before the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which
- 76 the tax was collected.
- 77 (2) The proceeds of the special sales tax shall be placed
- 78 into a separate fund apart from the municipal general fund and any
- 79 other funds of the municipality, and shall be expended by the
- 80 municipality solely for the purpose of paying any indebtedness or
- 81 other obligation the municipality may incur for the transportation
- 82 infrastructure project or other capital projects, or both,
- 83 specified in the resolution ordering the election.
- 84 (3) All provisions of the Mississippi Sales Tax Law
- 85 applicable to filing of returns, discounts to the taxpayer,
- 86 remittances to the State Tax Commission, enforced collection,
- 87 rights of taxpayers, recovery of improper taxes, refunds of
- 88 overpaid taxes or other provisions of law providing for imposition
- 89 and collection of the state sales tax shall apply to the special
- 90 sales tax authorized by Sections 1 through 3 of this act, except
- 91 where there is a conflict, in which case the provisions of
- 92 Sections 1 through 3 of this act shall control. Any damages,
- 93 penalties or interest collected for the nonpayment of taxes
- 94 imposed under Sections 1 through 3 of this act, or for
- 95 noncompliance with the provisions of Sections 1 through 3 of this
- 96 act, shall be paid to the municipality in which such damages,
- 97 penalties or interest were collected on the same basis and in the
- 98 same manner as the tax proceeds. Any overpayment of tax for any
- 99 reason that has been disbursed to any municipality or any payment

of the tax to any municipality in error may be adjusted by the 100 101 State Tax Commission on any subsequent payment to the municipality involved pursuant to the provisions of the Mississippi Sales Tax 102 103 The State Tax Commission may, from time to time, make such 104 rules and regulations not inconsistent with Sections 1 through 3 105 of this act as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of Sections 1 through 3 of this act, and such rules and 106 regulations shall have the full force and effect of law. 107

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(4) The special sales tax shall be discontinued by the governing authorities of the municipality on the first day of the month immediately succeeding the date any indebtedness incurred pursuant to Section 4 of this act, including interest, is retired, or in the event the municipality incurs no indebtedness, the first day of the month after all obligations for the construction of the transportation infrastructure projects or other capital projects, or both, have been paid. Any amount remaining in the separate fund containing the proceeds of the special tax not necessary to retire the debt or pay any other obligations, shall be transferred to the municipal general fund.

119 SECTION 4. The governing authorities of any municipality that levies a special sales tax pursuant to Sections 1 through 3 120 121 of this act may incur indebtedness of the municipality in an aggregate principal amount that is not in excess of an amount for 122 which debt service is capable of being funded by the proceeds of 123 124 the special sales tax levied pursuant to Sections 1 through 3 of this act. The indebtedness authorized by this section shall not 125 126 be considered when computing any limitation of indebtedness of the municipality established by law. 127

128 **SECTION 5.** Section 21-33-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 129 amended as follows:

21-33-303. No municipality shall hereafter issue bonds secured by a pledge of its full faith and credit for the purposes authorized by law in an amount which, when added to the then H. B. No. 396

133	outstanding bonded indebtedness of such municipality, shall exceed
134	either (a) fifteen percent (15%) of the assessed value of the
135	taxable property within such municipality, according to the last
136	completed assessment for taxation, or (b) ten percent (10%) of the
137	assessment upon which taxes were levied for its fiscal year ending
138	September 30, 1984, whichever is greater. In computing such
139	indebtedness, there may be deducted all bonds or other evidences
140	of indebtedness, heretofore or hereafter issued, for school,
141	water, sewerage systems, gas, and light and power purposes and for
142	the construction of special improvements primarily chargeable to
143	the property benefited, or for the purpose of paying the
144	municipality's proportion of any betterment program, a portion of
145	which is primarily chargeable to the property benefited. However,
146	in no case shall any municipality contract any indebtedness which,
147	when added to all of the outstanding general obligation
148	indebtedness, both bonded and floating, shall exceed either (a)
149	twenty percent (20%) of the assessed value of all taxable property
150	within such municipality according to the last completed
151	assessment for taxation or (b) fifteen percent (15%) of the
152	assessment upon which taxes were levied for its fiscal year ending
153	September 30, 1984, whichever is greater. Nothing herein
154	contained shall be construed to apply to contract obligations in
155	any form heretofore or hereafter incurred by any municipality
156	which are subject to annual appropriations therefor, or to bonds
157	heretofore issued by any municipality for school purposes, or to
158	contract obligations in any form heretofore or hereafter incurred
159	by any municipality which are payable exclusively from the
160	revenues of any municipally-owned utility, or to bonds issued by
161	any municipality under the provisions of Sections 57-1-1 through
162	57-1-51, or to any special assessment improvement bonds issued by
163	any municipality under the provisions of Sections 21-41-1 through
164	21-41-53, or to any indebtedness incurred under Section 55-23-8,

or to any indebtedness incurred under Section 4 of House Bill No.

166 <u>396, 2003 Regular Session</u>.

All bonds issued prior to July 1, 1990, pursuant to this chapter by any municipality for the purpose of the constructing, replacing, renovating or improving wastewater collection and treatment facilities in order to comply with an administrative order of the Mississippi Department of Natural Resources issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and amendments thereto, are hereby exempt from the limitation imposed by this section if the governing body of the municipality adopts an order, resolution or ordinance to the effect that the rates paid by the users of such facilities shall be increased to the extent necessary to provide sufficient funds for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as each respectively becomes due and payable as well as the necessary expenses in connection with the operation and maintenance of such facilities.

SECTION 6. Section 27-65-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

27-65-75. On or before the fifteenth day of each month, the revenue collected under the provisions of this chapter during the preceding month shall be paid and distributed as follows:

(1) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month thereafter through July 15, 1993, eighteen percent (18%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3) and 27-65-21, on business activities within a municipal corporation shall be allocated for distribution to such municipality and paid to such municipal corporation. On or before August 15, 1993, and each succeeding month thereafter, eighteen and one-half percent (18-1/2%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the provisions of Sections 27-65-15, 27-65-19(3)

198 and 27-65-21, on business activities within a municipal

199 corporation shall be allocated for distribution to such

200 municipality and paid to such municipal corporation.

201 A municipal corporation, for the purpose of distributing the

202 tax under this subsection, shall mean and include all incorporated

203 cities, towns and villages.

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Monies allocated for distribution and credited to a municipal corporation under this subsection may be pledged as security for any loan received by the municipal corporation for the purpose of capital improvements as authorized under Section 57-1-303, or loans as authorized under Section 57-44-7, or water systems

209 improvements as authorized under Section 41-3-16.

In any county having a county seat which is not an incorporated municipality, the distribution provided hereunder shall be made as though the county seat was an incorporated municipality; however, the distribution to such municipality shall be paid to the county treasury wherein the municipality is located and such funds shall be used for road, bridge and street

construction or maintenance therein.

month thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter during the preceding month One Million One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$1,125,000.00) shall be allocated for distribution to municipal corporations as defined under subsection (1) of this section in the proportion that the number of gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to consumers and retailers in each such municipality during the preceding fiscal year bears to the total gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to consumers and retailers in municipalities statewide during the preceding fiscal year. The State Tax Commission shall require all distributors of gasoline and diesel fuel to report to the commission monthly the total number of

gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by them to consumers and

retailers in each municipality during the preceding month. 231 232 State Tax Commission shall have the authority to promulgate such rules and regulations as is necessary to determine the number of 233 234 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel sold by distributors to 235 consumers and retailers in each municipality. In determining the percentage allocation of funds under this subsection for the 236 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and ending June 30, 1988, the 237 State Tax Commission may consider gallons of gasoline and diesel 238 fuel sold for a period of less than one (1) fiscal year. 239 purposes of this subsection, the term "fiscal year" means the 240 241 fiscal year beginning July 1 of a year.

- (3) On or before September 15, 1987, and on or before the fifteenth day of each succeeding month, until the date specified in Section 65-39-35, the proceeds derived from contractors' taxes levied under Section 27-65-21 on contracts for the construction or reconstruction of highways designated under the highway program created under Section 65-3-97 shall, except as otherwise provided in Section 31-17-127, be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be used to fund such * * * highway program. The Mississippi Department of Transportation shall provide to the State Tax Commission such information as is necessary to determine the amount of proceeds to be distributed under this subsection.
- On or before August 15, 1994, and on or before the 254 255 fifteenth day of each succeeding month through July 15, 1999, from the proceeds of gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes as 256 provided in Section 27-5-101(a)(ii)1, Four Million Dollars 257 (\$4,000,000.00) shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the 258 credit of a special fund designated as the "State Aid Road Fund," 259 created by Section 65-9-17. On or before August 15, 1999, and on 260 or before the fifteenth day of each succeeding month, from the 261 262 total amount of the proceeds of gasoline, diesel fuel or kerosene taxes apportioned by Section 27-5-101(a)(ii)1, Four Million 263

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Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) or an amount equal to twenty-three and one-fourth percent (23.25%) of such funds, whichever is the 265 greater amount, shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the 266 credit of the "State Aid Road Fund," created by Section 65-9-17. 267 268 Such funds shall be pledged to pay the principal of and interest on state aid road bonds heretofore issued under Sections 19-9-51 269 270 through 19-9-77, in lieu of and in substitution for the funds heretofore allocated to counties under this section. Such funds 271 may not be pledged for the payment of any state aid road bonds 272 issued after April 1, 1981; however, this prohibition against the 273 274 pledging of any such funds for the payment of bonds shall not apply to any bonds for which intent to issue such bonds has been 275 published, for the first time, as provided by law prior to March 276 277 29, 1981. From the amount of taxes paid into the special fund pursuant to this subsection and subsection (9) of this section, 278 there shall be first deducted and paid the amount necessary to pay 279 the expenses of the Office of State Aid Road Construction, as 280 281 authorized by the Legislature for all other general and special fund agencies. The remainder of the fund shall be allocated 282 283 monthly to the several counties in accordance with the following 284 formula:

- One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to all counties 285 (a) 286 in equal shares;
- One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties 287 (b) 288 based on the proportion that the total number of rural road miles in a county bears to the total number of rural road miles in all 289 counties of the state; and 290
- One-third (1/3) shall be allocated to counties 291 based on the proportion that the rural population of the county 292 bears to the total rural population in all counties of the state, 293 according to the latest federal decennial census. 294



295 For the purposes of this subsection, the term "gasoline, 296 diesel fuel or kerosene taxes" means such taxes as defined in 297 paragraph (f) of Section 27-5-101.

298 The amount of funds allocated to any county under this 299 subsection for any fiscal year after fiscal year 1994 shall not be less than the amount allocated to such county for fiscal year 300 301 Monies allocated to a county from the State Aid Road Fund 1994. 302 for fiscal year 1995 or any fiscal year thereafter that exceed the amount of funds allocated to that county from the State Aid Road 303 Fund for fiscal year 1994, first must be expended by the county 304 305 for replacement or rehabilitation of bridges on the state aid road system that have a sufficiency rating of less than twenty-five 306 307 (25), according to National Bridge Inspection standards before such monies may be approved for expenditure by the State Aid Road 308 309 Engineer on other projects that qualify for the use of state aid road funds. 310

Any reference in the general laws of this state or the
Mississippi Code of 1972 to Section 27-5-105 shall mean and be
construed to refer and apply to subsection (4) of Section
27-65-75.

- 315 (5) One Million Six Hundred Sixty-six Thousand Six Hundred
 316 Sixty-six Dollars (\$1,666,666.00) each month shall be paid into
 317 the special fund known as the "State Public School Building Fund"
 318 created and existing under the provisions of Sections 37-47-1
 319 through 37-47-67. Such payments into said fund are to be made on
 320 the last day of each succeeding month hereafter.
- 321 (6) An amount each month beginning August 15, 1983, through
 322 November 15, 1986, as specified in Section 6 of Chapter 542, Laws
 323 of 1983, shall be paid into the special fund known as the
 324 Correctional Facilities Construction Fund created in Section 6 of
 325 Chapter 542, Laws of 1983.
- 326 (7) On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month
 327 thereafter through July 15, 2000, two and two hundred sixty-six
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one-thousandths percent (2.266%) of the total sales tax revenue 328 329 collected during the preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that collected under the provisions of Section 330 331 27-65-17(2) shall be deposited by the commission into the School 332 Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund created pursuant to Section 333 37-61-35. On or before August 15, 2000, and each succeeding month thereafter, two and two hundred sixty-six one-thousandths percent 334 (2.266%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the 335 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that 336 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2), shall be 337 338 deposited into the School Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund created under Section 37-61-35 until such time that the total amount 339 340 deposited into the fund during a fiscal year equals Forty-two Million Dollars (\$42,000,000.00). Thereafter, the amounts 341 diverted under this subsection (7) during the fiscal year in 342 343 excess of Forty-two Million Dollars (\$42,000,000.00) shall be deposited into the Education Enhancement Fund created under 344 345 Section 37-61-33 for appropriation by the Legislature as other education needs and shall not be subject to the percentage 346 appropriation requirements set forth in Section 37-61-33. 347 On or before August 15, 1992, and each succeeding month 348 349 thereafter, nine and seventy-three one-thousandths percent 350 (9.073%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the

- thereafter, nine and seventy-three one-thousandths percent

 (9.073%) of the total sales tax revenue collected during the

 preceding month under the provisions of this chapter, except that

 collected under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) shall be

 deposited into the Education Enhancement Fund created pursuant to

 Section 37-61-33.
- (9) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month thereafter, from the revenue collected under this chapter during the preceding month, Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) shall be paid into the State Aid Road Fund.
- 359 (10) On or before August 15, 1994, and each succeeding month 360 thereafter through August 15, 1995, from the revenue collected

under this chapter during the preceding month, Two Million Dollars 361

(\$2,000,000.00) shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Ad 362

Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105. 363

364 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to 365 the contrary, on or before February 15, 1995, and each succeeding 366 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(2) and 367 the corresponding levy in Section 27-65-23 on the rental or lease 368 369 of private carriers of passengers and light carriers of property 370

as defined in Section 27-51-101 shall be deposited, without

371 diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund

established in Section 27-51-105. 372

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(12) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, on or before August 15, 1995, and each succeeding month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-17(1) on retail sales of private carriers of passengers and light carriers of property, as defined in Section 27-51-101 and the corresponding levy in Section 27-65-23 on the rental or lease of these vehicles, shall be deposited, after diversion, into the Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in Section 27-51-105.

- (13) On or before July 15, 1994, and on or before the fifteenth day of each succeeding month thereafter, that portion of the avails of the tax imposed in Section 27-65-22, which is derived from activities held on the Mississippi state fairgrounds complex, shall be paid into a special fund hereby created in the State Treasury and shall be expended pursuant to legislative appropriations solely to defray the costs of repairs and renovation at such Trade Mart and Coliseum.
- 390 On or before August 15, 1998, and each succeeding month thereafter through July 15, 2005, that portion of the avails of 391 392 the tax imposed in Section 27-65-23 which is derived from sales by cotton compresses or cotton warehouses and which would otherwise 393

- 394 be paid into the General Fund, shall be deposited in an amount not
- 395 to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) into the special
- 396 fund created pursuant to Section 69-37-39.
- 397 (15) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
- 398 the contrary, on or before September 15, 2000, and each succeeding
- 399 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
- 400 preceding month under the provisions of Section 27-65-19(1)(f) and
- 401 (g)(i)2, shall be deposited, without diversion, into the
- 402 Telecommunications Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund established in
- 403 Section 27-38-7.
- 404 (16) On or before August 15, 2000, and each succeeding month
- 405 thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the preceding
- 406 month under the provisions of this chapter on the gross proceeds
- 407 of sales of a project as defined in Section 57-30-1 shall be
- 408 deposited, after all diversions except the diversion provided for
- 409 in subsection (1) of this section, into the Sales Tax Incentive
- 410 Fund created in Section 57-30-3.
- 411 (17) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
- 412 the contrary, on or before April 15, 2002, and each succeeding
- 413 month thereafter, the sales tax revenue collected during the
- 414 preceding month under Section 27-65-23 on sales of parking
- 415 services of parking garages and lots at airports shall be
- 416 deposited, without diversion, into the special fund created
- 417 pursuant to Section 27-5-101(d).
- 418 (18) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
- 419 the contrary, the revenue collected from the special sales tax
- 420 authorized under Sections 1 through 3 of House Bill No. 396, 2003
- 421 Regular Session, shall be allocated for distribution and
- distributed as provided in Section 3 of House Bill No. 396, 2003
- 423 Regular Session.
- 424 (19) The remainder of the amounts collected under the
- 425 provisions of this chapter shall be paid into the State Treasury
- 426 to the credit of the General Fund.

427	(20) It shall be the duty of the municipal officials of any
428	municipality which expands its limits, or of any community which
429	incorporates as a municipality, to notify the commissioner of such
430	action thirty (30) days before the effective date. Failure to so
431	notify the commissioner shall cause such municipality to forfeit
432	the revenue which it would have been entitled to receive during
433	this period of time when the commissioner had no knowledge of the
434	action. If any funds have been erroneously disbursed to any
435	municipality or any overpayment of tax is recovered by the
436	taxpayer, the commissioner may make correction and adjust the
437	error or overpayment with such municipality by withholding the
438	necessary funds from any subsequent payment to be made to the
439	municipality.
440	SECTION 7. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
441	shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
442	or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
443	Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
444	District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
445	provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
446	extended.
447	SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from
448	and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting

Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.