

By: Senator(s) Robertson

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2242

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 51-15-129 AND 51-15-137, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE METHOD OF FUNDING FOR THE PAT HARRISON
3 WATERWAY DISTRICT AS IT RELATES TO THE CONTRIBUTION FROM JACKSON
4 COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 51-15-129, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 51-15-129. From and after October 1, 1996, in each county of
9 the State of Mississippi which is a part of the Pat Harrison
10 Waterway District, so long as funds are found to be necessary for
11 the operation of the district by annual legislative approval of
12 the district budget, the tax collector of such county shall pay
13 into the depository selected by the water district for such
14 purpose an amount to be determined as follows: each county shall
15 pay a pro rata share (not to exceed the avails of one (1) mill
16 through September 30, 1997, and not to exceed three-fourths (3/4)
17 mill thereafter) of the annual district budget (excluding the
18 amount necessary for debt service) based on the proportion that
19 the most recent total assessed valuation of the county bears to
20 the most recent aggregate total assessed valuation of all the
21 counties which comprise the district; provided, however, that any
22 county bordering on the Gulf of Mexico which by action of the
23 board of supervisors has created and authorized a port authority
24 and which has been paying into the port authority the avails of a
25 two-mill levy that was established under Section 27-39-3 shall pay
26 an amount not to exceed two-tenths (2/10) mill of the total
27 assessed valuation of the county to the Pat Harrison Waterway
28 District pursuant to this section and the assessed valuation of



29 that county shall not be considered when calculating each county's
30 pro rata share of the district's budget. It shall be the duty of
31 the Pat Harrison Waterway District Board of Directors in the month
32 of July annually upon receipt of the total assessed valuation of
33 the member counties, certified by the Mississippi State Tax
34 Commission, to prepare a request to the board of supervisors of
35 member counties to levy a tax using the formula herein established
36 not to exceed one (1) mill through September 30, 1997, and not to
37 exceed three-fourths (3/4) mill thereafter.

38 **SECTION 2.** Section 51-15-137 Mississippi Code of 1972, is
39 amended as follows:

40 51-15-137. From and after October 1, 1996, the board of
41 supervisors of each county that is a member of the Pat Harrison
42 Waterway District on January 1, 1996, shall pay to the district
43 depository a sum not more than is necessary to defray the annual
44 principal and interest due on outstanding indebtedness of the
45 district, not to exceed an amount equal to the avails of
46 one-fourth (1/4) mill of the total assessed valuation of the
47 member county; provided, however, that any county bordering on the
48 Gulf of Mexico which by action of the board of supervisors has
49 created and authorized a port authority and which has been paying
50 into the port authority the avails of a two-mill levy that was
51 established under Section 27-39-3 shall pay to the district
52 depository from and after October 1, 1996, an amount not to exceed
53 one-tenth (1/10) mill of the total assessed valuation of the
54 county. The district depository shall place such payments into a
55 special sinking fund out of which monies shall be expended solely
56 to retire bonds and any other indebtedness incurred under this
57 article. Such payments shall be continued as long as there
58 remains unpaid and outstanding any bonded indebtedness created by
59 the district board as hereinafter provided. Any such board of
60 supervisors shall provide the sum herein required either by
61 appropriation from any available funds of the county or by levy.



62 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
63 and after its passage.

