

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.

