

By: Senator(s) Chaney

To: Local and Private

SENATE BILL NO. 2973

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF  
2 VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI, FOR A PROJECT TO WIDEN THE YAZOO DIVERSION  
3 CANAL, TO GIVE SATISFACTORY ASSURANCES TO THE UNITED STATES OF  
4 AMERICA THAT IT WILL PROVIDE, WITHOUT COST TO THE UNITED STATES,  
5 ALL LANDS, EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY NECESSARY FOR THE  
6 CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT, THAT IT WILL HOLD AND SAVE THE UNITED  
7 STATES FREE FROM DAMAGES DUE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WORKS AND  
8 THAT IT WILL MAINTAIN AND OPERATE ALL OF THE WORKS AFTER  
9 COMPLETION IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS PRESCRIBED PURSUANT TO  
10 THE TERMS OF ANY FEDERAL LAW RELATING TO NAVIGATION OR TO  
11 NAVIGABLE STREAMS; TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE  
12 CITY OF VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI, TO ACCEPT THE CONVEYANCE OF ANY  
13 LANDS, EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY OVER AND ON BEHALF OF ANY LANDS  
14 THAT MAY BE BENEFITED BY THE MAINTENANCE OF SUCH PROJECT, TO  
15 ACCEPT ASSURANCES FROM LANDOWNERS WHOSE PROPERTY IS BENEFITED BY  
16 SUCH PROJECT, TO LEVY, ASSESS AND COLLECT SUCH TAXES ON THE AREA  
17 SO BENEFITED AS WILL BE NECESSARY, TO SAVE AND HOLD THE UNITED  
18 STATES FREE FROM ALL DAMAGES DUE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WORKS,  
19 TO MAINTAIN SUCH WORKS AFTER COMPLETION AND TO ACCEPT AGREEMENTS  
20 FOR LANDOWNERS BENEFITED BY SUCH PROJECT TO SAVE THE CITY HARMLESS  
21 ON ACCOUNT OF ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE CITY TO THE UNITED STATES OF  
22 AMERICA; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

24 **SECTION 1.** (1) The governing authorities of the City of  
25 Vicksburg, Mississippi, are hereby authorized and empowered, for a  
26 project to widen the Yazoo Diversion Canal, to give satisfactory  
27 assurances to the United States of America, or any agency thereof,  
28 including the Secretary of Defense, that it will:

29 (a) Provide, without cost to the United States, all  
30 lands, easements and rights-of-way necessary for the construction  
31 of the project;

32 (b) Hold and save the United States free from damages  
33 due to the construction of the works; and

34 (c) Maintain and operate all of the works after  
35 completion in accordance with regulations prescribed pursuant to  
36 the terms of any federal law relating to navigation or to  
37 navigable streams.



38           (2) The governing authorities of the City of Vicksburg,  
39 Mississippi, are hereby authorized and empowered to accept the  
40 conveyance of any lands, easements and rights-of-way over and on  
41 behalf of any lands that may be benefited by the maintenance of  
42 such project, to accept assurances from landowners whose property  
43 is benefited by such project, to levy, assess and collect such  
44 taxes on the area so benefited as will be necessary, to save and  
45 hold the United States free from all damages due to the  
46 construction of the works, to maintain such works after completion  
47 and generally to accept agreements for landowners benefited by  
48 such project to save the city harmless on account of assurances  
49 given by the city to the United States of America, or any agency  
50 thereof, including the Secretary of Defense.

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

