

By: Representative Fleming

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 298

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 21-33-301, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF ANY MUNICIPALITY TO
3 ISSUE NEGOTIABLE BONDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY FOR FUNDING FOR PRIVATE
4 REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREAS OF THE
5 MUNICIPALITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 21-33-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 21-33-301. The governing authorities of any municipality are
10 authorized to issue negotiable bonds of the municipality to raise
11 money for the following purposes:

12 (a) Erecting municipal buildings, armories,
13 auditoriums, community centers, gymnasiums and athletic stadiums,
14 preparing and equipping athletic fields, and purchasing buildings
15 or land therefor, and for repairing, improving, adorning and
16 equipping the same, and for erecting, equipping and furnishing of
17 buildings to be used as a municipal or civic arts center;

18 (b) Erecting or purchasing waterworks, gas, electric
19 and other public utility plants or distribution systems or
20 franchises, and repairing, improving and extending the same;

21 (c) Purchasing or constructing, repairing, improving
22 and equipping buildings for public libraries and for purchasing
23 land, equipment and books therefor, whether the title to same be
24 vested in the municipality issuing such bonds or in some
25 subdivision of the state government other than the municipality,
26 or jointly in such municipality and other such subdivision;

27 (d) Establishing sanitary, storm, drainage or sewerage
28 systems, and repairing, improving and extending the same;

29 (e) Protecting a municipality, its streets and
30 sidewalks from overflow, caving banks and other like dangers;

31 (f) Constructing, improving or paving streets,
32 sidewalks, driveways, parkways, walkways or public parking
33 facilities, and purchasing land therefor;

34 (g) Purchasing land for parks, cemeteries and public
35 playgrounds, and improving, equipping and adorning the same,
36 including the constructing, repairing and equipping of swimming
37 pools and other recreational facilities;

38 (h) Constructing bridges and culverts;

39 (i) Constructing, repairing and improving wharves,
40 docks, harbors and appurtenant facilities, and purchasing land
41 therefor;

42 (j) Constructing, repairing and improving public
43 slaughterhouses, markets, pest houses, workhouses, hospitals,
44 houses of correction, reformatories and jails in the corporate
45 limits, or within three (3) miles of the corporate limits, and
46 purchasing land therefor;

47 (k) Altering or changing the channels of streams and
48 water courses to control, deflect or guide the current thereof;

49 (l) Purchasing fire-fighting equipment and apparatus,
50 and providing housing for same, and purchasing land therefor;

51 (m) Purchasing or renting voting machines and any other
52 election equipment needed in elections held in the municipality;

53 (n) Assisting the Board of Trustees of State
54 Institutions of Higher Learning, the Bureau of Building, Grounds
55 and Real Property Management of the Governor's Office of General
56 Services, or any other state agency in acquiring a site for,
57 constructing suitable buildings and runways and equipping an
58 airport for the university or other state-supported four-year
59 college, now or hereafter in existence, in or near which the
60 municipality is located, within not more than ten (10) miles of
61 the municipality;

62 (o) Acquiring and improving existing mass transit
63 system; however, no municipal governing authorities shall
64 authorize any bonds to be issued for the acquiring and improving
65 of an existing mass transit system unless an election be conducted
66 in said municipality in the same manner provided for general and
67 special elections, and a majority of the qualified electors of the
68 municipality participating in said election approve the bond
69 issuance for the acquiring and improving of an existing mass
70 transit system;

71 (p) Purchasing machinery and equipment which have an
72 expected useful life in excess of ten (10) years. The life of
73 such bonds shall not exceed the expected useful life of such
74 machinery and equipment. Machinery and equipment shall not
75 include any motor vehicle weighing less than twelve thousand
76 (12,000) pounds;

77 (q) A project for which a certificate of public
78 convenience and necessity has been obtained by the municipality
79 pursuant to the Regional Economic Development Act;

80 (r) Funding private real estate development projects
81 for the downtown areas of municipalities.

82 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2004.