

By: Representative Pierce

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 417

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "RURAL COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE GRANT
 2 FUND," WHICH SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT
 3 AUTHORITY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 4 SHALL ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
 5 GRANTS FROM THE FUND TO COUNTIES WITH A POPULATION OF NOT MORE
 6 THAN 20,000 TO ASSIST THOSE COUNTIES IN PROVIDING FOR AMBULANCE
 7 SERVICE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE GRANT FUND WILL CONSIST OF FUNDS
 8 APPROPRIATED BY THE LEGISLATURE FROM THE HEALTH CARE EXPENDABLE
 9 FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** As used in this act, the following words shall
 12 have the meanings ascribed in this section unless the context
 13 clearly requires otherwise:

14 (a) "Authority" means the Mississippi Development
 15 Authority.

16 (b) "Fund" means the Rural County Ambulance Service
 17 Grant Fund.

18 (c) "Rural county" means a county that has a population
 19 of not more than twenty thousand (20,000), according to the most
 20 recent federal decennial census.

21 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is created a special fund in the State
 22 Treasury to be designated the "Rural County Ambulance Service
 23 Grant Fund," which shall be administered by the authority. The
 24 authority shall establish and implement a program for the purpose
 25 of making grants from the fund to rural counties, which shall be
 26 used to supplement existing county funds for providing for
 27 ambulance service. The fund shall consist of funds appropriated
 28 by the Legislature from the Health Care Expendable Fund
 29 established under Section 43-13-407. Unexpended amounts remaining
 30 in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the

31 State General Fund. Any interest earned or investment earnings on
32 amounts in the fund shall be deposited into the fund.

33 (2) The authority shall have all powers necessary to
34 implement and administer the program provided for in this section,
35 and the authority shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary
36 for the implementation and administration of the program.

37 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after July 1, 2005.