

By: Representatives Miles, Cummings

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 149

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 65-37-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT BRIDGES CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE LOCAL SYSTEM BRIDGE
3 PROGRAM SHALL EQUAL OR EXCEED THE DESIGN AND STANDARDS PRESCRIBED
4 FOR BRIDGES BY THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND
5 TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 65-37-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 65-37-5. In administering the provisions of Sections 65-37-1
10 through 65-37-15, the State Aid Engineer shall have the following
11 powers and duties:

12 (a) To supervise the use of all funds made available
13 under Sections 65-37-1 through 65-37-15 for local bridge
14 replacement and rehabilitation projects on local road systems;

15 (b) To review and certify all projects for which funds
16 are authorized to be made available under Sections 65-37-1 through
17 65-37-15 for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation projects
18 on local road systems;

19 (c) To requisition monies in the Local System Bridge
20 Replacement and Rehabilitation Fund and pay and distribute those
21 monies on a project-by-project basis in accordance with the
22 allocation formula established by Section 65-37-3;

23 (d) To insure that each four-year plan submitted by a
24 county to the State Aid Engineer and the funds allocated to a
25 county under Sections 65-37-1 through 65-37-15 provide for an
26 equitable distribution of projects and funds among the county and
27 incorporated municipalities located therein based upon the number

28 and costs of deficient bridges in both the county and the
29 municipalities;

30 (e) To establish and require specific designs and
31 standards to be followed by the counties in replacing and
32 rehabilitating bridges under Sections 65-37-1 through 65-37-15,
33 which designs and standards shall equal or exceed the design and
34 standards prescribed for bridges by the American Association of
35 State Highway and Transportation officials;

36 (f) To maintain an accurate record of all local bridge
37 replacement and rehabilitation funds allocated to counties and of
38 the number of bridges replaced or rehabilitated, their location
39 and the costs for each project. Such records shall be kept
40 separate from other records of the Office of State Aid Road
41 Construction;

42 (g) To periodically notify the counties of bridges
43 eligible for replacement and rehabilitation under the provisions
44 of Sections 65-37-1 through 65-37-15;

45 (h) To adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations
46 as may be necessary or desirable for the purpose of implementing
47 the provisions of Sections 65-37-1 through 65-37-15; and

48 (i) To file annually with the Legislature a report
49 detailing how monies in the Local System Bridge Replacement and
50 Rehabilitation Fund were spent during the preceding fiscal year in
51 each county, including in the incorporated municipalities of each
52 county, the number of projects approved and constructed, the
53 length of bridges completed and the cost per foot of each bridge
54 constructed.

55 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after July 1, 2007.