

By: Representatives Norquist, DuVall

To: County Affairs;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1309
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-39-332, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE COUNTIES TO LEVY MILLAGE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND
3 OPERATION OF THE BURN CENTER LODGE FOR FAMILIES OF VICTIMS BEING
4 TREATED AT THE BURN UNIT AT CROSSGATES RIVER OAKS HOSPITAL, IN
5 ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY TO LEVY MILLAGE TO SUPPORT THE
6 MISSISSIPPI BURN CARE FUND; TO REQUIRE THE PERFORMANCE OF AN
7 ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE MISSISSIPPI
8 FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL BURN ASSOCIATION BEFORE COUNTIES MAY DONATE
9 ANY FUNDS TO THE ASSOCIATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-39-332, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
12 amended as follows:

13 **Until July 1, 2016, this section shall read as follows:]**

14 27-39-332. (1) The board of supervisors of any county is
15 authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to levy a tax not to
16 exceed one (1) mill per annum upon all taxable property of the
17 county, which shall be provided directly to the Mississippi
18 Department of Health * * * to support the Mississippi Burn Care
19 Fund.

20 (2) (a) The board of supervisors of any county is
21 authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to levy a tax not to
22 exceed one (1) mill per annum upon all taxable property of the
23 county, which shall be provided directly to the Mississippi
24 Firefighters Memorial Burn Association, Inc., to support the
25 construction and/or operation of the Burn Center Lodge for
26 families of victims being treated at the Joseph M. Still Burn and
27 Reconstructive Center, Inc., at Crossgates River Oaks Hospital.

28 (b) (i) The Mississippi Firefighters Memorial Burn
29 Association, Inc., shall hire an independent auditor, who uses
30 generally accepted accounting principles and auditing standards,



31 to perform an annual audit on the financial condition of the
32 association and to create a report containing the results of the
33 audit. The auditor's report shall be submitted to the Mississippi
34 Commissioner of Insurance within one hundred eighty (180) days of
35 the end of the association's fiscal year, and shall be published
36 in accordance with the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983.

37 (ii) No county board of supervisors shall donate
38 any funds to the Mississippi Firefighters Memorial Burn
39 Association, Inc., in any year in which the association fails to
40 submit the annual audit report, required by this paragraph (b), to
41 the Commissioner of Insurance. The Mississippi Firefighters
42 Memorial Burn Association, Inc., shall be prohibited from
43 receiving any funds until the annual audit report, required by
44 this paragraph (b), is submitted to the Commissioner of Insurance.

45 **[From and after July 1, 2016, this section shall read as**
46 **follows:]**

47 27-39-332. The board of supervisors of any county is
48 authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to levy a tax not to
49 exceed one (1) mill per annum upon all taxable property of the
50 county, which shall be provided directly to the Mississippi
51 Department of Health, or the University of Mississippi Medical
52 Center after the Mississippi Burn Center is operational, to
53 support the Mississippi Burn Care Fund.

54 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
55 and after July 1, 2011.

