

By: Representatives Byrd, Carpenter, Gipson, To: Ways and Means
McLeod, Steverson

HOUSE BILL NO. 1224

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 17-23-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL ROUND OF FIRE TRUCKS FOR COUNTIES AND
3 MUNICIPALITIES UNDER THE RURAL FIRE TRUCK ACQUISITION ASSISTANCE
4 PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 17-23-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 17-23-1. (1) There is established the Rural Fire Truck
9 Acquisition Assistance Program to be administered by the
10 Department of Insurance for the purpose of assisting counties and
11 municipalities in the acquisition of fire trucks.

12 (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to
13 be designated as the "Rural Fire Truck Fund." The Legislature may
14 appropriate that amount necessary to fulfill the obligations
15 created under this section by the Department of Insurance, from
16 the State General Fund to such special fund, which sum shall be
17 added to the remainder of the money transferred on July 1, 1995,
18 and during the 1996 Regular Session to the Rural Fire Truck Fund.
19 Unexpended amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal



20 year shall not lapse into the State General Fund, and any interest
21 earned on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of
22 the fund. Unobligated amounts remaining in the Rural Fire Truck
23 Fund, Fund No. 3507, or in Fund No. 3508, or in Fund No. 3504, or
24 in any fund created for funds appropriated or otherwise made
25 available for this program, may be used as matching funds by any
26 county with remaining eligibility as provided herein. It is the
27 intent of the Legislature that the Department of Insurance
28 continue to accept applications from the counties for fire trucks
29 as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

30 (3) (a) A county that meets the requirements provided
31 herein may receive an amount not to exceed * * * Seven Hundred
32 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$720,000.00) as provided in subparagraphs
33 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix),
34 (x), * * * (xi) and (xii) of this paragraph, and such amount shall
35 be divided as follows: an amount of not more than Fifty Thousand
36 Dollars (\$50,000.00) per fire truck for the first six (6) trucks
37 and not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per fire
38 truck for the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, * * * eleventh and
39 twelfth trucks. Monies distributed under this chapter shall be
40 expended only for the purchase of new fire trucks and such trucks
41 must meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
42 standards in the 1900 series.

43 (i) Any county that has not applied for a fire
44 truck under this section is eligible to submit applications



45 for * * * twelve (12) fire trucks as follows: six (6) fire trucks
46 at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck
47 and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
48 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of * * * Seven Hundred
49 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$720,000.00).

50 (ii) Any county that has received one (1) fire
51 truck under this section is eligible to submit applications
52 for * * * eleven (11) fire trucks as follows: * * * five (5) fire
53 trucks at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per
54 truck and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy
55 Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of * * * Six
56 Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$670,000.00).

57 (iii) Any county that has received two (2) fire
58 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
59 for * * * ten (10) fire trucks as follows: four (4) fire trucks
60 at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck
61 and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
62 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than * * *
63 Six Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$620,000.00).

64 (iv) Any county that has received three (3) fire
65 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
66 for * * * nine (9) fire trucks as follows: three (3) fire trucks
67 at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck
68 and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand



69 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than * * *
70 Five Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$570,000.00).

71 (v) Any county that has received four (4) fire
72 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
73 for * * * eight (8) fire trucks as follows: two (2) fire trucks
74 at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck
75 and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
76 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than * * *
77 Five Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$520,000.00).

78 (vi) Any county that has received five (5) fire
79 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
80 for * * * seven (7) fire trucks as follows: one (1) fire truck at
81 not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck
82 and * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
83 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than * * *
84 Four Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$470,000.00).

85 (vii) Any county that has received six (6) fire
86 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
87 for * * * six (6) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
88 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than * * *
89 Four Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$420,000.00).

90 (viii) Any county that has received seven (7) fire
91 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application



92 for * * * five (5) fire trucks at not more than * * * Seventy
93 Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more
94 than Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00).

95 (ix) Any county that has received eight (8) fire
96 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
97 for * * * four (4) fire trucks at not more than * * * Seventy
98 Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more
99 than Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000.00).

100 (x) Any county that has received nine (9) fire
101 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
102 for * * * three (3) fire trucks at not more than * * * Seventy
103 Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more
104 than Two Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$210,000.00).

105 (xi) Any county that has received ten (10) fire
106 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application
107 for * * * two (2) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand
108 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than One
109 Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000.00).

110 (xii) Any county that has received eleven (11)
111 fire trucks under this section is eligible to submit an
112 application for one (1) fire truck at not more than Seventy
113 Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00).

114 (b) The board of supervisors of the county shall submit
115 its request for the receipt of monies to the Department of
116 Insurance. A committee composed of the Commissioner of Insurance,



117 the State Fire Coordinator, the Director of the Rating Bureau and
118 the Director of the State Fire Academy shall review the requests
119 by the boards of supervisors and shall determine whether the
120 county or municipality for which the board of supervisors has
121 requested a truck meets the requirements of eligibility under this
122 chapter.

123 (c) To be eligible to receive monies under this
124 chapter:

125 (i) A county or municipality must pledge to set
126 aside or dedicate each year as matching funds, for a period not to
127 extend over ten (10) years, local funds in an amount equal to or
128 not less than one-tenth (1/10) of the amount of monies for which
129 it is requesting distribution from the Rural Fire Truck Fund,
130 which pledged monies may be derived from local ad valorem tax
131 authorized by law or from any other funds available to the county
132 or municipality, except for those funds received by municipalities
133 or counties from the Municipal Fire Protection Fund or the County
134 Volunteer Fire Department Fund, as defined in Sections 83-1-37 and
135 83-1-39.

136 (ii) A municipality must provide adequate
137 documentation of its contract with the county that requires the
138 municipality to provide fire protection in rural areas. The term
139 "rural areas" means any area within the county located outside the
140 boundaries of an incorporated municipality or any incorporated



141 municipality with a population of two thousand five hundred
142 (2,500) or less.

143 (d) The Department of Insurance shall maintain an
144 accurate record of all monies distributed to counties and
145 municipalities and the number of fire trucks purchased and the
146 cost for each fire truck, such records to be kept separate from
147 other records of the Department of Insurance; notify counties and
148 municipalities of the Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance
149 Program and the requirements for them to become eligible to
150 participate; adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as
151 may be necessary and desirable to implement the provisions of this
152 chapter; and file with the Legislature a report detailing how
153 monies made available under this chapter were distributed and
154 spent during the preceding portion of the fiscal year in each
155 county and municipality, the number of fire trucks purchased, the
156 counties and municipalities making such purchases, and the cost of
157 each fire truck purchased.

158 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
159 and after July 1, 2018.

