

By: Senator(s) Gollott

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2939

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES SHALL  
3 BE AUTHORIZED TO CARRY OVER \$2,000,000.00 IN SPENDING AUTHORITY  
4 FROM THE PUBLIC TRUST TIDELANDS FUND INTO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR ON  
5 AN ANNUAL BASIS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 29-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 29-15-9. (1) There is created in the State Treasury a  
10 special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Fund."  
11 The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State as  
12 trustee.

13 (2) Any funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and  
14 submerged lands, except those funds derived from mineral leases,  
15 or funds previously specifically designated to be applied to other  
16 agencies, shall be transferred to the special fund. However,  
17 funds derived from lease rentals may be used to cover the  
18 administrative cost incurred by the Secretary of State. Any  
19 remaining funds derived from lease rentals shall be disbursed pro



20 rata to the local taxing authorities for the replacement of lost  
21 ad valorem taxes, if any. Then, any remaining funds shall be  
22 disbursed to the commission for new and extra programs of  
23 tidelands management, such as conservation, reclamation,  
24 preservation, acquisition, education or the enhancement of public  
25 access to the public trust tidelands or public improvement  
26 projects as they relate to those lands.

27 (3) Any funds that are appropriated as separate line items  
28 in an appropriation bill for tideland programs or projects  
29 authorized under this section for political subdivisions or other  
30 agencies shall be disbursed as provided in this subsection.

31 (a) The Department of Marine Resources shall make  
32 progress payments in installments based on the work completed and  
33 material used in the performance of a tidelands project only after  
34 receiving written verification from the political subdivision or  
35 agency. The political subdivision or agency shall submit  
36 verification of the work completed or materials in such detail and  
37 form that the department may require.

38 (b) The Department of Marine Resources shall have an  
39 additional Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) in spending  
40 authority set aside in each fiscal year to cover prior unexpended  
41 fiscal years project expenses.

42 ( \* \* \*c) The Department of Marine Resources shall make  
43 funds available for the purpose of using such funds as a match or



44 leverage for federal or other funds that are available for the  
45 designated tidelands project.

46       **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
47 and after July 1, 2019.

