

By: Representatives Bounds, Dortch, Paden,
Foster, McCarty

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 1800
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE MISSISSIPPI ELECTRIC
2 COOPERATIVES BROADBAND COVID-19 GRANT PROGRAM FUND AND THE
3 COVID-19 BROADBAND PROVIDER GRANT PROGRAM FUND TO THE MISSISSIPPI
4 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR PURPOSES OF THE
5 MISSISSIPPI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BROADBAND COVID-19 GRANT PROGRAM
6 AND THE COVID-19 BROADBAND PROVIDER GRANT PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) The following sum, or so much of it as may
10 be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Mississippi
11 Electric Cooperatives Broadband COVID-19 Grant Program Fund to the
12 Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration for the
13 purposes of the Mississippi Electric Cooperatives Broadband
14 COVID-19 Grant Program, for the period beginning upon July 1,
15 2020, and ending December 30, 2020, or to such later date as may
16 be specified in the guidelines, guidance rules, regulations and/or
17 other criteria of the United States Department of the Treasury
18 regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus Relief Fund
19 established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
20 Act, but not to a date later than June 30, 2021...\$ 65,000,000.00.



21 (2) The following sum, or so much of it as may be necessary,
22 is appropriated out of any money in the COVID-19 Broadband
23 Provider Grant Program Fund to the Mississippi Department of
24 Finance and Administration for the purposes of the COVID-19
25 Broadband Provider Grant Program, for the period beginning upon
26 July 1, 2020, and ending December 30, 2020, or to such later date
27 as may be specified in the guidelines, guidance, rules,
28 regulations and/or other criteria of the United States Department
29 of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus
30 Relief Fund established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
31 Economic Security Act, but not to a date later than June 30,
32 2021.....\$ 10,000,000.00.

33 **SECTION 2.** The Mississippi Department of Finance and
34 Administration shall not disburse any funds appropriated under
35 this act to any recipient without first receiving from the
36 Mississippi Public Utilities Staff records containing the
37 following information: (a) making an individualized determination
38 that the reimbursement sought is, in the Mississippi Public
39 Utilities Staff's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures
40 incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to
41 COVID-19 as provided under Section 601(d) of the federal Social
42 Security Act as added by Section 5001 of the federal Coronavirus
43 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and its
44 implementing guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other
45 criteria, as may be amended or supplemented from time to time, by



46 the United States Department of the Treasury; and (b) determining
47 that the recipient has not received and will not receive
48 reimbursement for the expense in question from any source of
49 funds, including insurance proceeds, other than those funds
50 provided under Section 601 of the federal Social Security Act as
51 added by Section 5001 of the CARES Act.

52 **SECTION 3.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending
53 the funds appropriated to the Mississippi Department of Finance
54 and Administration under this act, the Mississippi Department of
55 Finance and Administration shall require the Mississippi Public
56 Utilities Staff to certify that each expenditure of the funds
57 appropriated to the Mississippi Department of Finance and
58 Administration under this act is in compliance with the
59 guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as
60 may be amended from time to time, of the United States Department
61 of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus
62 Relief Fund established by the CARES Act.

63 (2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States
64 Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of
65 any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies
66 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund established by the CARES Act (a)
67 determines that the Mississippi Department of Finance and
68 Administration has expended or otherwise used any of the funds
69 appropriated to the Mississippi Department of Finance and
70 Administration under this act for any purpose that is not in



71 compliance with the guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations
72 and/or other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, of the
73 United States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of
74 monies from the Coronavirus Relief Fund established by the CARES
75 Act, and (b) the State of Mississippi is required to repay the
76 federal government for any of those funds that the Office of the
77 Inspector General determined were expended or otherwise used
78 improperly by the State of Mississippi, then the Mississippi
79 Public Utilities Staff shall be required to pay the amount of
80 those funds to the State of Mississippi for repayment to the
81 federal government.

82 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2020.

