To: Rules

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE
By: Senator(s) DeLano

REGULAR SESSION 2020

SENATE BILL NO. 3057

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 4, CHAPTER 491, LAWS OF 2020 (HOUSE BILL NO. 1788), TO AUTHORIZE FUNDS APPROPRIATED AND GRANT MONIES DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI PANDEMIC RESPONSE BROADBAND AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM TO BE EXPENDED ON A LICENSE TO USE EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF NO LONGER THAN ONE (1) YEAR AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 4, Chapter 491, Laws of 2020 (House Bill No. 1788), is amended as follows:

Section 4. (1) The department shall distribute grant monies, without the requirement of application by school districts or schools, as equitably and efficiently as possible after determining the unserved areas of the state using the latest publicly available Federal Communications Commission broadband data, and after determining which and to what extent Mississippi public school districts, independent schools and Native American tribal school districts educate students living in such unserved areas of the state. The Mississippi Department of Education shall consult with the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools
and the administrations of the Native American tribal school
districts in determining which and to what extent such schools
and * * * school districts educate students living in such
unserved areas of the state. Any grant monies provided under this
act shall be spent by the recipient school district no later than
December 1, 2020, or by such later date as may be specified in the
guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria of
the United States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of
monies from the Coronavirus Relief Fund established in Section
5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.
Grants shall be conditioned on the school district or school
broadband provider agreements including that broadband capacity
shall be expanded to a significant extent for the district's or
school's students during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

(2) Funds appropriated and grant monies distributed under
this program may be expended on a license to use equipment and
services for a period of no longer than one (1) year as necessary
to address the COVID-19 crisis and fulfill the purposes of this
program.

(* * *3) The department may develop regulations and
procedures to govern the administration of the program.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after its passage.