

By: Senator(s) Hill, Branning, Sparks,  
Jackson (11th), Butler, Suber, Chism, Boyd

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2062  
(As Sent to Governor)

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 any fund created for funds appropriated  
24 or otherwise made available for this program, may be used as  
25 matching funds by any county with remaining eligibility as  
26 provided herein. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
27 Department of Insurance continue to accept applications from the  
28 counties for fire trucks as provided in subsection (3) of this  
29 section.

30 (3) (a) A county that meets the requirements provided  
31 herein may receive an amount not to exceed \* \* \* Nine Hundred  
32 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$920,000.00) as provided in subparagraphs  
33 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi),  
34 (xii) \* \* \*, (xiii) and (xiv) of this paragraph, and such amount  
35 shall be divided as follows: an amount of not more than Fifty  
36 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per fire truck for the first six (6)  
37 trucks and not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per  
38 fire truck for the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh  
39 trucks, and not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per  
40 fire truck for the twelfth \* \* \*, thirteenth and fourteenth truck.  
41 Monies distributed under this chapter shall be expended only for  
42 the purchase of new fire trucks and such trucks must meet the  
43 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards in the 1900  
44 series.



45 (i) Any county that has not applied for a fire  
46 truck under this section is eligible to submit applications  
47 for \* \* \* fourteen (14) fire trucks as follows: six (6) fire  
48 trucks at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per  
49 truck and five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand  
50 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at  
51 not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a  
52 total of \* \* \* Nine Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$920,000.00).

53 (ii) Any county that has received one (1) fire  
54 truck under this section is eligible to submit applications  
55 for \* \* \* thirteen (13) fire trucks as follows: five (5) fire  
56 trucks at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per  
57 truck and five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand  
58 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at  
59 not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a  
60 total of \* \* \* Eight Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars  
61 (\$870,000.00).

62 (iii) Any county that has received two (2) fire  
63 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
64 for \* \* \* twelve (12) fire trucks as follows: four (4) fire  
65 trucks at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per  
66 truck and five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand  
67 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at  
68 not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a



69 total of not more than \* \* \* Eight Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars  
70 (\$820,000.00).

71 (iv) Any county that has received three (3) fire  
72 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
73 for \* \* \* eleven (11) fire trucks as follows: three (3) fire  
74 trucks at not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per  
75 truck and five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand  
76 Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at  
77 not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a  
78 total of not more than \* \* \* Seven Hundred Seventy Thousand  
79 Dollars (\$770,000.00).

80 (v) Any county that has received four (4) fire  
81 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
82 for \* \* \* ten (10) fire trucks as follows: two (2) fire trucks at  
83 not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck and  
84 five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars  
85 (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not  
86 more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a  
87 total of not more than \* \* \* Seven Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars  
88 (\$720,000.00).

89 (vi) Any county that has received five (5) fire  
90 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
91 for \* \* \* nine (9) fire trucks as follows: one (1) fire truck at  
92 not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per truck and  
93 five (5) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars



94 (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not  
95 more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a  
96 total of not more than \* \* \* Six Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars  
97 (\$670,000.00).

98 (vii) Any county that has received six (6) fire  
99 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
100 for \* \* \* eight (8) fire trucks as follows: five (5) fire trucks  
101 at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck,  
102 and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand  
103 Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than \* \* \*  
104 Six Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$620,000.00).

105 (viii) Any county that has received seven (7) fire  
106 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
107 for \* \* \* seven (7) fire trucks as follows: four (4) fire trucks  
108 at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck,  
109 and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand  
110 Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than \* \* \*  
111 Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000.00).

112 (ix) Any county that has received eight (8) fire  
113 trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application  
114 for \* \* \* six (6) fire trucks as follows: three (3) fire trucks  
115 at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck,  
116 and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand  
117 Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than \* \* \*  
118 Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$480,000.00).



(x) Any county that has received nine (9) fire trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application for \* \* \* five (5) fire trucks as follows: two (2) fire trucks at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than \* \* \* Four Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$410,000.00).

(xi) Any county that has received ten (10) fire trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application for \* \* \* four (4) fire trucks as follows: one (1) fire truck at not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) per truck, and \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck or a total of not more than \* \* \* Three Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$340,000.00).

(xii) Any county that has received eleven (11) fire trucks under this section is eligible to submit an application for \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck.

(xiii) Any county may apply for \* \* \* three (3) fire trucks at not more than Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) per truck as provided in subparagraph (xii), provided that the county agrees to forego any previous fire truck under subparagraphs (i) through (xi) for which the county has not previously applied, and that the county has received approval from



the Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance Program Committee to  
apply for and receive a truck under subparagraph (xii).

(b) The board of supervisors of the county shall submit  
its request for the receipt of monies to the Department of  
Insurance. A committee composed of the Commissioner of Insurance,  
the State Fire Coordinator, the Director of the Rating Bureau and  
the Director of the State Fire Academy shall review the requests  
by the boards of supervisors and shall determine whether the  
county or municipality for which the board of supervisors has  
requested a truck meets the requirements of eligibility under this  
chapter.

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

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



(ii) A municipality must provide adequate documentation of its contract with the county that requires the municipality to provide fire protection in rural areas. The term "rural areas" means any area within the county located outside the boundaries of an incorporated municipality or any incorporated municipality with a population of two thousand five hundred (2,500) or less.

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

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2021.

