

By: Representatives Read, Arnold, Turner,  
Hale, Stamps

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1537

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE ARPA  
3 WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1425, 2022 REGULAR SESSION, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be  
7 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the ARPA Wastewater  
8 Infrastructure Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department  
9 of Environmental Quality for the purpose of funding the ARPA  
10 Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program established under House  
11 Bill No. 1425, 2022 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning  
12 July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.....\$ 171,000,000.00.

13 **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section and Section 3 of  
14 this act, the term "department" means the Department of  
15 Environmental Quality.

16 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds appropriated  
17 under this act to any recipient without first: (a) making an  
18 individualized determination that the reimbursement sought is, in  
19 the department's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures



20 eligible under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as  
21 added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of  
22 2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance, rules,  
23 regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or  
24 supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of  
25 the Treasury; and (b) determining that the recipient has not  
26 received and will not receive reimbursement for the expense in  
27 question from any source of funds, including insurance proceeds,  
28 other than those funds provided under Section 602 of the federal  
29 Social Security Act as added by Section 9901 of ARPA. In  
30 addition, the department shall ensure that all funds appropriated  
31 under this act are disbursed in compliance with the Single Audit  
32 Act (31 USC Sections 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the  
33 Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Section 200.303 regarding internal  
34 controls, Sections 200.330 through 200.332 regarding sub-recipient  
35 monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit  
36 requirements.

37       **SECTION 3.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending  
38 the funds appropriated to the department under this act, the  
39 department shall certify to the Department of Finance and  
40 Administration that each expenditure of the funds appropriated to  
41 the department under this act complies with the guidelines,  
42 guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be  
43 amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the  
44 Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State



45 Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the American Rescue Plan Act  
46 of 2021.

47 (2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States  
48 Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of  
49 any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies  
50 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the  
51 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (a) determines that the  
52 department or recipient has expended or otherwise used any of the  
53 funds appropriated to the department under this act for any  
54 purpose that is not in compliance with the guidelines, guidance,  
55 rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended from  
56 time to time, of the United States Department of the Treasury  
57 regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal  
58 Recovery Fund established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,  
59 and (b) the State of Mississippi is required to repay the federal  
60 government for any of those funds that the Office of the Inspector  
61 General determined were expended or otherwise used improperly by  
62 the department or recipient, then the department or recipient that  
63 expended or otherwise used those funds improperly shall be  
64 required to pay the amount of those funds to the State of  
65 Mississippi for repayment to the federal government.

66 **SECTION 4.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid  
67 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the ARPA Wastewater  
68 Infrastructure Fund not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants  
69 issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer



70 shall issue his or her warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
71 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

72         **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
73 and after July 1, 2022.

