

By: Representative McLeod

To: Local and Private  
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1745

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GEORGE  
2 COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, TO REPAIR THE PARKING LOT OF CROSSROADS  
3 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THAT WAS DAMAGED DURING THE REPAIR AND  
4 RESTORATION OF A PORTION OF MISSISSIPPI STATE HIGHWAY 26 THAT  
5 WASHED AWAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Board of Supervisors of George County,  
8 Mississippi, is authorized, in its discretion, to repair the  
9 parking lot of Crossroads United Methodist Church, located in  
10 Lucedale, Mississippi, that was utilized as a staging area for  
11 heavy equipment used to remove vehicles from a thirty-foot deep  
12 chasm on a portion of Mississippi State Highway 26 and for other  
13 vehicles and equipment used to repair and restore the highway.  
14 The deep chasm developed suddenly and unexpectedly when a  
15 fifty-foot section of the highway washed away on August 30, 2021,  
16 due to heavy rains caused by a hurricane.

17 (2) The county may repair the church's parking lot, as  
18 authorized under subsection (1) of this section, by utilizing  
19 county employees and equipment or by utilizing third party



20 contractors. The repair authorized under this section is not to  
21 provide a benefit for the church but instead is only to make the  
22 church whole for the damage caused to the parking lot while  
23 various parties were performing the public purposes of clearing  
24 the disaster site and repairing and restoring the portion of  
25 Mississippi State Highway 26 that washed away.

26 (3) Before the county may take any action as authorized  
27 under this section, the board of supervisors must receive  
28 documentation that the church has filed a claim under the  
29 Mississippi Tort Claims Act pursuant to the provisions of Section  
30 11-46-1, et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.

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

