

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

S. B. No. 2780: State budget; bring forward certain provisions, create the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, and transfer funds.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

38 **SECTION 1.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
39 shall transfer the amounts listed below from the Capital Expense
40 Fund (Fund No. 6499C00000) to each of the following named funds:

41 FUND	FUND NUMBER	AMOUNT
42 Mississippi Historic Site		
43 Preservation Fund	3348400000	\$ 2,000,000.00
44 Mississippi Ports		
45 Improvement Fund	6343322100	\$ 10,000,000.00
46 Victims of Human Trafficking		
47 and Commercial Sexual		
48 Exploitation Fund	3307800000	\$ 2,500,000.00
49 Mississippi Land, Water,		
50 and Timber Resources Fund	634WC00000	\$ 2,500,000.00
51 MDOT 2022 Maintenance Project		



52	Fund created in this act	\$ 45,000,000.00
53	MDOT 2022 Capacity Project	
54	Fund created in this act	\$ 35,000,000.00
55	MDOT 2022 Infrastructure Match	
56	Fund created in this act	\$ 40,000,000.00
57	MDOT 2022 Emergency Road and	
58	Bridge Fund created in this act	<u>\$100,000,000.00</u>
59	TOTAL	\$237,000,000.00

60 **SECTION 2.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
61 shall transfer the amounts listed below from the Coronavirus State
62 Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No. 6821113000) to each of the
63 following named funds:

64	FUND	FUND NUMBER	AMOUNT
65	Coronavirus State Fiscal		
66	Recovery Lost Revenue Fund		
67	created in this act		\$ 55,000,000.00
68	Mississippi Association of		
69	Independent Colleges and		
70	Universities (MAICU) Grant		
71	Program Fund created in Senate		
72	Bill No. 2700, 2022 Regular		
73	Session		<u>\$ 10,000,000.00</u>
74	TOTAL		\$ 65,000,000.00

75 **SECTION 3.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
76 shall transfer the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) from



77 the Capital Expense Fund - Archives and History (Fund No.
78 6447C00000) to Mississippi Historic Site Preservation Fund (Fund
79 No. 3348400000).

80 **SECTION 4.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
81 shall transfer the sum of Eight Thousand Eighty-six Dollars and
82 Ninety-five Cents (\$8,086.95) from the Alcoholic Beverage Control
83 Special Fund (Fund No. 331960000) and the sum of Eight Thousand
84 Six Hundred One Dollars and Sixty-four Cents (\$8,601.64) from the
85 Department of Revenue General Administration Special Fund (Fund
86 No. 3319700000) to the Sales Tax Fees Fund (Fund No. 3318100000).

87 **SECTION 5.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
88 shall transfer the sum of Six Hundred Twenty-three Dollars
89 (\$623.00) from the Secretary of State Help Mississippi Vote Fund
90 (Fund No. 3311M00000) to the State General Fund (Fund No.
91 2999000000).

92 **SECTION 6.** During fiscal year 2023, the State Fiscal Officer
93 shall transfer the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00)
94 from the State General Fund (Fund No. 2999000000) to the
95 Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund created by House Bill
96 No. 606, 2022 Regular Session.

97 **SECTION 7.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
98 fund to be designated as the "Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
99 Lost Revenue Fund," which shall consist of funds calculated based
100 on a reduction in the state's general revenue due to the
101 coronavirus public health emergency, made available through the



102 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the American
103 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and transferred into the fund by act of
104 the Legislature. The fund shall be maintained by the State
105 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
106 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
107 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
108 State General Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned
109 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the
110 fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the Department of
111 Finance and Administration, upon appropriation by the Legislature,
112 for the purpose of providing government services.

113 **SECTION 8.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
114 fund to be designated as the "2022 Maintenance Project Fund,"
115 which shall consist of funds made available by the Legislature in
116 any manner and funds from any other source designated for deposit
117 into such fund. The fund shall be maintained by the State
118 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
119 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
120 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
121 State General Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned
122 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the
123 fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the Department of
124 Transportation, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide
125 for maintenance projects by adopting the Pavement Program of the
126 Three-Year Plan as adopted by the Mississippi Transportation



127 Commission on Minute Book 105, page 732 and further required by
128 Section 65-1-141.

129 **SECTION 9.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
130 fund to be designated as the "2022 Capacity Project Fund," which
131 shall consist of funds made available by the Legislature in any
132 manner and funds from any other source designated for deposit into
133 such fund. The fund shall be maintained by the State Treasurer as
134 a separate and special fund, separate and apart from the General
135 Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in the fund at
136 the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General
137 Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned on amounts in
138 the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the fund. Monies in
139 the fund shall be used by the Department of Transportation, upon
140 appropriation by the Legislature, to provide for capacity projects
141 by adopting the Capacity Program of the Three-Year Plan as adopted
142 by the Mississippi Transportation Commission on Minute Book 105,
143 page 732 and further required by Section 65-1-141.

144 **SECTION 10.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
145 fund to be designated as the "2022 Infrastructure Match Fund,"
146 which shall consist of funds made available by the Legislature in
147 any manner and funds from any other source designated for deposit
148 into such fund. The fund shall be maintained by the State
149 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
150 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
151 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the



152 State General Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned
153 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the
154 fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the Department of
155 Transportation, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide
156 for funds necessary to match projected federal funds available
157 through the following federal fiscal year from the annual Federal
158 Highway Administration appropriations and from the supplemental
159 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) appropriations.

160 **SECTION 11.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
161 fund to be designated as the "2022 Emergency Road and Bridge
162 Fund," which shall consist of funds made available by the
163 Legislature in any manner and funds from any other source
164 designated for deposit into such fund. The fund shall be
165 maintained by the State Treasurer as a separate and special fund,
166 separate and apart from the General Fund of the state. Unexpended
167 amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall
168 not lapse into the State General Fund, and any investment earnings
169 or interest earned on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to
170 the credit of the fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the
171 Department of Transportation, upon appropriation by the
172 Legislature, for the purposes provided in Section 65-1-179.

173 **SECTION 12.** (1) This section shall be known and may be
174 cited as the "Independent Schools Infrastructure Grant Program Act
175 of 2022."



176 (2) There is established the Independent Schools
177 Infrastructure Grant Program, to be administered by the Department
178 of Finance and Administration. Under the program, eligible
179 independent schools may apply for reimbursable grants to make
180 necessary investments in water, wastewater, stormwater, broadband
181 and other eligible infrastructure projects to be funded by the
182 Legislature using Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds made
183 available under the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The
184 program shall be funded from appropriations by the Legislature to
185 the department from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

186 (3) For purposes of this section, unless the context
187 requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings as
188 defined in this subsection:

189 (a) "Program" means the Independent Schools
190 Infrastructure Grant Program established under this section.

191 (b) "ARPA" means the federal American Rescue Plan Act
192 of 2021, Public Law 117-2, which amends Title VI of the Social
193 Security Act.

194 (c) "ARPA funds" means Coronavirus State Fiscal
195 Recovery Funds awarded through Section 602 of Title VI of the
196 Social Security Act amended by Section 9901 of the federal
197 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2.

198 (d) "Department" means the Department of Finance and
199 Administration.



200 (e) "Eligible independent school" means any private or
201 nonpublic school operating within the State of Mississippi that:

202 (i) Is a member of the Midsouth Association of
203 Independent Schools (MAIS) and located in the State of
204 Mississippi; or

205 (ii) Is accredited by a state, regional or
206 national accrediting organization; and

207 (iii) Is not subject to the purview of authority
208 of the State Board of Education.

209 (4) On or before July 1, 2022, the department shall
210 promulgate rules and regulations necessary to administer the
211 program established under this section, including application
212 procedures and deadlines.

213 (5) Funds under the program shall be awarded for ARPA
214 eligible projects in the following order:

215 (a) Eligible water, wastewater and stormwater projects
216 under the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water State
217 Revolving Fund (CWSRF) or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
218 (DWSRF) and other eligible water projects allowable by ARPA;

219 (b) Broadband infrastructure projects;

220 (c) Capital investments for prevention, mitigation and
221 ventilation in congregate living facilities and other key
222 settings; and

223 (d) Any eligible project through ARPA guidelines,
224 guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be



225 amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the
226 Treasury, excluding premium pay for employees.

227 (6) The governing board of any eligible independent school
228 may submit an application for grant funds under this section.
229 Applicants shall certify to the department that each expenditure
230 of the funds awarded to them by the department under this section
231 is in compliance with the ARPA guidelines, guidance, rules,
232 regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended from time to
233 time, by the United States Department of the Treasury regarding
234 the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.
235 Subsequent submissions will be due by the dates established by the
236 department.

237 (7) An application for a grant under this section shall be
238 submitted at such time, be in such form, and contain such
239 information as the department prescribes. Each application shall
240 include the following at a minimum: applicant contact
241 information; project description and type of project; project map;
242 estimate of the population served by the projects; estimated
243 project cost; estimated project schedule; and readiness to
244 proceed. The department is authorized to accept additional rounds
245 of grant proposals for application consideration as needed.

246 (8) Applications shall be reviewed, and the department shall
247 certify that each project submitted is eligible under ARPA and all
248 applicable guidance issued by the United States Department of the
249 Treasury. For water, wastewater and stormwater projects, the



250 department must also certify that it is a "necessary investment"
251 in water, wastewater or stormwater infrastructure as defined in
252 ARPA and all applicable guidance issued by the United States
253 Department of the Treasury. Grant agreements shall be executed
254 between the recipient and the department. All final awards shall
255 be determined at the discretion of the executive director of the
256 department. Funds shall be made available to a grantee upon the
257 execution of a grant agreement between the department and the
258 approved applicant, and the department obtains the necessary
259 support for reimbursement.

260 (9) Grant requirements shall be used prospectively and
261 grants are not available to cover the costs of debt incurred
262 before the effective date of this section.

263 (10) The maximum amount of grant funds that may be awarded
264 to any eligible independent school under the program is One
265 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

266 (11) The department shall submit to the Joint Legislative
267 Budget Committee by October 1 of each year an annual report about
268 the program. The reports shall contain the applications received,
269 the amount of grant funds awarded to each applicant, the amount of
270 grant funds expended by each applicant, and the status of each
271 applicant's project.

272 (12) Grant funds received under this section must be
273 obligated no later than December 31, 2024, and must be expended no
274 later than December 31, 2026. Each grant recipient shall certify



275 for any project for which a grant is awarded that if the project
276 is not completed by December 31, 2026, and the United States
277 Congress does not enact an extension of the deadline on the
278 availability of ARPA funds, then the grant recipient will complete
279 the project using any other funds available.

280 (13) The department may retain an amount not to exceed Two
281 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) of the total funds
282 allocated to the program to defray its administrative costs.

283 (14) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2026.

284 **SECTION 13.** Section 19-11-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
285 amended as follows:

286 19-11-27. No board of supervisors of any county shall expend
287 from, or contract an obligation against, the budget estimates for
288 road and bridge construction, maintenance and equipment, made and
289 published by it during the last year of the term of office of such
290 board, between the first day of October and the first day of the
291 following January, a sum exceeding one-fourth (1/4) of such item
292 of the budget made and published by it, except in cases of
293 emergency. The clerk of any county is prohibited from issuing any
294 warrant contrary to the provisions of this section. No board of
295 supervisors nor any member thereof shall buy any machinery or
296 equipment in the last six (6) months of their or his term unless
297 or until he has been elected at the general election of that year.
298 The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) * * *
299 projects of any type that receive monies from the Local System



300 Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program, the Emergency Road
301 and Bridge Repair Fund, the 2018 Transportation and Infrastructure
302 Improvement Fund or the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund and (ii) to
303 expenditures * * * on deficient bridges in the State Aid Road
304 System or the Local System Road Program that have * * * been
305 deemed to be a deficient bridge as defined in Section 65-37-3 or
306 to a contract, lease or lease-purchase contract executed pursuant
307 to the bidding requirements in Section 31-7-13 and approved by a
308 unanimous vote of the board. Such unanimous vote shall include a
309 statement indicating the board's proclamation that the award of
310 the contract is essential to the efficiency and economy of the
311 operation of the county government. * * *

312 **SECTION 14.** Section 39-5-145, Mississippi Code of 1972, as
313 amended by House Bill No. 1663, 2022 Regular Session, is amended
314 as follows:

315 39-5-145. (1) A special fund, to be designated the
316 "Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation Grant Fund," is
317 created within the State Treasury. The fund shall be maintained
318 by the State Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate
319 and apart from the General Fund of the state. The fund shall
320 consist of any monies designated for deposit therein from any
321 source, including proceeds of any state general obligation bonds
322 designated for deposit therein. Unexpended amounts remaining in
323 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
324 State General Fund and any interest earned or investment earnings



325 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited into the fund. The
326 expenditure of monies deposited into the fund shall be under the
327 direction of the Department of Finance and Administration, based
328 upon recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Department of
329 Archives and History, and such funds shall be paid by the State
330 Treasurer upon warrants issued by the Department of Finance and
331 Administration. Monies deposited into such fund shall be
332 allocated and disbursed according to the provisions of this
333 section. If any monies in the special fund are derived from
334 proceeds of state general obligation bonds and are not used within
335 four (4) years after the date such bond proceeds are deposited
336 into the special fund, then the Department of Finance and
337 Administration shall provide an accounting of such unused monies
338 to the State Bond Commission.

339 (2) Monies deposited into the fund shall be allocated and
340 disbursed as follows:

341 (a) (i) * * * Fifty-six Million Fifty Thousand Dollars
342 (\$56,050,000.00) shall be allocated and disbursed as grants on a
343 reimbursable basis through the Department of Finance and
344 Administration, based upon the recommendations of the Board of
345 Trustees of the Department of Archives and History, to assist
346 county governments, municipal governments, school districts,
347 universities, community colleges, state agencies and nonprofit
348 organizations that have obtained Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt
349 status from the United States Internal Revenue Service in helping



350 pay the costs incurred in preserving, restoring, rehabilitating,
351 repairing or interpreting 1. historic county courthouses, 2.
352 historic school buildings, and/or 3. other historic properties
353 identified by certified local governments. Where possible,
354 expenditures from the fund shall be used to match federal grants
355 or other grants that may be accessed by the Department of Archives
356 and History, other state agencies, county governments or municipal
357 governments, school districts or nonprofit organizations that have
358 obtained Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the United
359 States Internal Revenue Service. Any properties, except those
360 described in paragraphs (b) and (d) of this subsection, receiving
361 monies pursuant to this section must be designated as "Mississippi
362 Landmark" properties prior to selection as projects for funding
363 under the provisions of this section.

364 (ii) One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand
365 Dollars (\$1,750,000.00) shall be allocated and disbursed as grants
366 through the Department of Finance and Administration, based upon
367 the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Department of
368 Archives and History, to assist county governments in helping pay
369 the costs of historically appropriate restoration, repair and
370 renovation of historically significant county courthouses. Grants
371 to individual courthouses under this paragraph (a)(ii) shall not
372 exceed Eight Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$875,000.00).

373 (b) Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)
374 shall be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the Amory



375 Regional Museum in Amory, Mississippi, to pay the costs of capital
376 improvements, repair, renovation, furnishing and/or equipping of
377 the museum. The Department of Finance and Administration is
378 directed to transfer Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
379 (\$250,000.00) from the fund to the city on or before December 31,
380 2004, and the city shall place the funds into an escrow account.
381 The city may expend the funds from the account only in an amount
382 equal to matching funds that are provided from any source other
383 than the state for the project. As the funds are withdrawn from
384 the escrow account, the city shall certify to the Department of
385 Finance and Administration the amount of the funds that have been
386 withdrawn and that the funds withdrawn are in an amount equal to
387 matching funds required by this paragraph.

388 (c) One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be
389 allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the Jacinto Foundation,
390 Inc., to pay the costs of capital improvements, repairing,
391 renovating, restoring, rehabilitating, preserving, furnishing
392 and/or equipping the courthouse and related facilities in Jacinto,
393 Mississippi, and to pay the costs of capital improvements,
394 repairing, renovating, restoring, rehabilitating, preserving,
395 furnishing and/or equipping other buildings and facilities near
396 the courthouse.

397 (d) Four Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars
398 (\$425,000.00) shall be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to
399 the Oxford-Lafayette County Heritage Foundation to pay the costs



400 of capital improvements, repairing, renovating, restoring,
401 rehabilitating, preserving, furnishing, equipping and/or acquiring
402 the L.Q.C. Lamar Home in Oxford, Mississippi.

403 (e) One Million Four Hundred Twenty-five Thousand
404 Dollars (\$1,425,000.00) shall be allocated and disbursed as grant
405 funds to the City of Columbus, Mississippi, to assist in paying
406 the costs associated with repair, renovation and restoration of
407 the Columbus City Hall building and related facilities.

408 (f) One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be
409 allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the Town of Wesson,
410 Mississippi, to pay the costs of restoration and renovation of the
411 Old Wesson School.

412 (g) Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)
413 shall be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the Town of
414 Shubuta, Mississippi, to assist in paying the costs associated
415 with construction, reconstruction, refurbishing, repair,
416 renovation and restoration of the Shubuta Town Hall building and
417 related facilities.

418 (h) Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)
419 shall be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the City of
420 Okolona, Mississippi, to assist in paying costs associated with
421 the purchase, repair, renovation, furnishing and equipping of a
422 building and related facilities on Main Street in the City of
423 Okolona, for the purpose of establishing a welcome center in which
424 historical information relating to the City of Okolona will be



425 displayed, including, but not limited to, information relating to
426 the furniture, banking, retail and farming industries; education;
427 historical collections owned by individuals and organizations;
428 genealogy; Okolona College; and the Battle of Okolona and the War
429 Between the States.

430 (i) One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be
431 allocated and disbursed as grant funds to Tallahatchie County,
432 Mississippi, to assist in paying the costs associated with repair,
433 renovation and restoration of the Tallahatchie County Courthouse.

434 (j) Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)
435 shall be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to Wayne County,
436 Mississippi, to assist in paying the costs associated with repair,
437 renovation and restoration of the Wayne County Courthouse.

438 (k) Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) shall
439 be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to assist in paying the
440 cost of rehabilitation and restoration of Winterville Indian
441 Mounds in Washington County, Mississippi.

442 (l) Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) shall
443 be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to the City of
444 Kosciusko, to assist the City of Kosciusko, Mississippi, in paying
445 costs associated with (i) repair, renovation, furnishing,
446 equipping, additions to and expansion of the Kosciusko Natchez
447 Trace Visitor Center in the City of Kosciusko, Mississippi, and
448 (ii) repair, renovation, furnishing, equipping, additions to and



449 expansion of the historic Strand Theater in the City of Kosciusko,
450 Mississippi.

451 (m) One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be
452 allocated and disbursed as grant funds to Jefferson County,
453 Mississippi, to assist in paying costs associated with repair,
454 renovation, upgrades and improvements to the confederate cemetery
455 and related properties and facilities in the county.

456 (n) Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) shall
457 be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to Tate County,
458 Mississippi, to assist in paying costs associated with painting,
459 refurbishment and historical restoration and renovation of the
460 Tate County Courthouse.

461 (o) Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) shall
462 be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to Humphreys County,
463 Mississippi, to assist in paying costs associated with repair and
464 renovation of and upgrades and improvements to the Humphreys
465 County Courthouse.

466 (p) One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) of
467 any monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2023 shall
468 be allocated and disbursed as grant funds to assist in paying the
469 costs associated with relocation, repair, renovation and
470 restoration of a one-room school building and related facilities
471 including costs incurred before July 1, 2022, and such grant funds
472 shall not be subject to any requirement for matching funds.



473 (* * *g) Monies in the Mississippi Community Heritage
474 Preservation Grant Fund which are derived from proceeds of state
475 general obligation bonds may be used to reimburse reasonable
476 actual and necessary costs incurred by the Mississippi Department
477 of Archives and History in providing assistance directly related
478 to a project described in paragraph (a) of this subsection for
479 which funding is provided under this section. Reimbursement may
480 be made only until such time as the project is completed. An
481 accounting of actual costs incurred for which reimbursement is
482 sought shall be maintained for each project by the Mississippi
483 Department of Archives and History. Reimbursement of reasonable
484 actual and necessary costs for a project shall not exceed three
485 percent (3%) of the proceeds of bonds issued for such project.
486 Monies authorized for a particular project may not be used to
487 reimburse administrative costs for unrelated projects.

488 (3) (a) The Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives
489 and History shall receive and consider proposals from county
490 governments, municipal governments, school districts,
491 universities, community colleges, state agencies and nonprofit
492 organizations that have obtained Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt
493 status from the United States Internal Revenue Service for
494 projects associated with the preservation, restoration,
495 rehabilitation, repair or interpretation of (i) historic
496 courthouses, (ii) historic school buildings, and/or (iii) other
497 historic properties identified by certified local governments.



498 Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of
499 procedures, criteria and standards developed by the board. The
500 board shall determine those projects to be funded and may require
501 matching funds from any applicant seeking assistance under this
502 section. This subsection shall not apply to projects described in
503 subsection (2) (a) (ii), (2) (b), (2) (c), (2) (d), (2) (e), (2) (f),
504 (2) (g), (2) (h) and (2) (j) of this section.

505 (b) The Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives
506 and History shall receive and consider proposals from county
507 governments for projects associated with historically appropriate
508 restoration, repair and renovation of historically significant
509 county courthouses. Proposals shall be submitted in accordance
510 with the provisions of procedures, criteria and standards
511 developed by the board. The board shall determine those projects
512 to be funded and may require matching funds from any applicant
513 seeking assistance under this section. This subsection shall not
514 apply to projects described in subsection (2) (a) (i), (2) (b),
515 (2) (c), (2) (d), (2) (e) and (2) (f) of this section.

516 (4) The Department of Archives and History shall publicize
517 the Community Heritage Preservation Grant Program described in
518 this section on a statewide basis, including the publication of
519 the criteria and standards used by the department in selecting
520 projects for funding. The selection of a project for funding
521 under the provisions of this section shall be made solely upon the
522 deliberate consideration of each proposed project on its merits.



523 The board shall make every effort to award the grants in a manner
524 that will fairly distribute the funds in regard to the geography
525 and cultural diversity of the state. This subsection shall not
526 apply to projects described in subsection (2) (b), (2) (c), (2) (d),
527 (2) (e) and (2) (f) of this section.

528 (5) With regard to any project awarded funding under this
529 section, any consultant, planner, architect, engineer, exhibit
530 contracting firm, historic preservation specialist or other
531 professional hired by a grant recipient to work on any such
532 project shall be approved by the board before their employment by
533 the grant recipient.

534 (6) Plans and specifications for all projects initiated
535 under the provisions of this section shall be approved by the
536 board before the awarding of any contracts. The plans and
537 specifications for any work involving "Mississippi Landmark"
538 properties shall be developed in accordance with "The Secretary of
539 the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic
540 Properties."

541 **SECTION 15.** Section 77-5-907, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
542 amended as follows:

543 77-5-907. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
544 special fund to be designated as the "Public Utilities Application
545 Fund," which shall consist of funds made available by the
546 Legislature in any manner and funds from any other source
547 designated for deposit into such fund. Unexpended amounts



548 remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse
549 into the State General Fund, and any investment earnings or
550 interest earned on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the
551 credit of the fund. Monies in the fund shall be used for
552 administration expenses related to the processing of grants by the
553 Public Utilities Staff. Any application fee collected under the
554 grant programs and deposited to the Public Utilities Staff
555 Regulation Fund before September 1, 2020, shall be transferred to
556 the * * * Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi
557 (BEAM) Fund created by House Bill No. 1029, 2022 Regular Session.

558 **SECTION 16.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
559 and after July 1, 2022, except for Section 15, which shall take
560 effect and be in force from and after the passage of this act.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER TO MAKE CERTAIN
2 TRANSFERS DURING FISCAL YEAR 2023 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENSE FUND,
3 CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND, CAPITAL EXPENSE FUND -
4 ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL SPECIAL FUND,
5 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION SPECIAL FUND,
6 SECRETARY OF STATE HELP MISSISSIPPI VOTE FUND AND STATE GENERAL
7 FUND TO OTHER FUNDS IN THE STATE TREASURY; TO CREATE THE
8 "CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY LOST REVENUE FUND" AS A SPECIAL
9 FUND IN THE STATE TREASURY TO BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
10 AND ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING GOVERNMENT
11 SERVICES; TO CREATE THE 2022 MAINTENANCE PROJECT FUND, THE 2022
12 CAPACITY PROJECT FUND, THE 2022 INFRASTRUCTURE MATCH FUND AND THE
13 2022 EMERGENCY ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND AS SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE
14 TREASURY TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
15 FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES; TO CREATE THE "INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
16 INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM ACT OF 2022" TO BE ADMINISTERED BY
17 THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION WITH FUNDS
18 APPROPRIATED FROM THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND; TO



19 PROVIDE THAT SUCH GRANTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE
20 INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS; TO PRESCRIBE ELIGIBLE PROJECTS UNDER THE
21 GRANT PROGRAM; TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT TO PROMULGATE GRANT
22 APPLICATION REGULATIONS; TO SET THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS
23 THAT MAY BE AWARDED TO ANY ELIGIBLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL; TO AMEND
24 SECTION 19-11-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE
25 EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS ON COUNTY EXPENDITURES DURING THE LAST
26 YEAR OF TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS TO ALLOW
27 EXPENDITURES FOR CERTAIN ROAD AND BRIDGE PROJECTS; TO AMEND
28 SECTION 39-5-145, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED BY HOUSE
29 BILL NO. 1663, 2022 REGULAR SESSION, TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM
30 AMOUNT OF FUNDS IN THE MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY HERITAGE PRESERVATION
31 GRANT FUND THAT MAY BE ALLOCATED FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF PROJECTS; TO
32 AMEND SECTION 77-5-907, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT
33 CERTAIN FEES DEPOSITED INTO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF REGULATION
34 FUND SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BROADBAND EXPANSION AND
35 ACCESSIBILITY OF MISSISSIPPI (BEAM) FUND; AND FOR RELATED
36 PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Hopson

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Polk

X (SIGNED)
Cockerham

X (SIGNED)
Blackwell

X (SIGNED)
White

