

By: Representatives Bell (65th), Stamps

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 723  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE AIRPORT PARKWAY COMMISSION TO CONDUCT  
2 A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SAFE, RELIABLE AND  
3 COST-EFFECTIVE BUS, RAIL AND LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SERVICES FOR THE  
4 AREAS LOCATED BETWEEN DOWNTOWN JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,  
5 AND THE JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LOCATED  
6 IN RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE THAT THE STUDY SHALL  
7 PROVIDE A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
8 ESTABLISHMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF SUCH SERVICES FOR  
9 THE STATE TO THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 SECTION 1. (1) The Airport Parkway Commission, is hereby  
12 authorized to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing  
13 safe, reliable and cost effective bus, rail and light rail transit  
14 services for the areas located between downtown Jackson, Hinds  
15 County, Mississippi, and the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers  
16 International Airport located in Rankin County, Mississippi.

17 (2) The commission shall, at a minimum, study and report to  
18 the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature the following:

19 (a) The total amount of federal revenue received by the  
20 State of Mississippi and the total amount of state funds spent on  
21 federal matching funds that can allowably be allocated for the



22 establishment, implementation and operation of bus, rail and light  
23 rail transit services within the areas designated in subsection  
24 (1) of this section;

25 (b) A cost-benefit analysis examining the impact of  
26 providing bus, rail and light rail transit services through  
27 reprioritizing current expenditures of certain federal and state  
28 funds;

29 (c) The approximate total annual funding required to  
30 serve the areas situated between downtown Jackson, Hinds County,  
31 Mississippi, and the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International  
32 Airport located in Rankin County, Mississippi, that may benefit  
33 from the transportation services provided by bus, rail and light  
34 rail transit services within those designated areas;

35 (d) Examples in Mississippi and/or in other states of  
36 public transportation such as bus, rail and light rail transit  
37 services within the areas designated in subsection (1) of this  
38 section;

39 (e) Benefits to employers of employee access to bus,  
40 rail and light rail transit services within the areas designated  
41 in subsection (1) of this section; and

42 (f) Recommendations for increasing the amount of  
43 federal revenue and state funds spent on bus, rail and light rail  
44 transit services within the areas designated in subsection (1) of  
45 this section.



46 (3) To effectuate the purposes of this section, any  
47 department, division, board, bureau, committee or agency of the  
48 state or any political subdivision thereof, may, at the request of  
49 the commission, provide such facilities, assistance, information  
50 and data as will enable the commission to properly carry out its  
51 duties under the authority of this section.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after July 1, 2023.

