

By: Representatives Byrd, Summers

To: County Affairs;
Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 856

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 19-5-93, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ANY COUNTY TO DONATE FUNDS
3 TO ANY DESIGNATED COMMUNITY OF THE MISSISSIPPI MAIN STREET
4 ASSOCIATION AS WELL AS TO ANY CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIALS, SITES AND
5 DESTINATIONS WITHIN A COUNTY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 19-5-93, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 19-5-93. The board of supervisors of each county is
10 authorized, in its discretion, to donate money for the objects and
11 purposes following, to wit:

12 (a) **Confederate graves.** For the location, marking,
13 care and maintenance of the grave or graves and graveyard of
14 Confederate soldiers or sailors who died in the Confederate
15 service, and the purchase, if necessary, of the land on which any
16 of the said graveyards may be situated, and the erection and
17 maintenance of appropriate monuments and appropriate inscriptions
18 thereon. In the exercise of this power the board is fully
19 authorized to accept donations of land on which any of said



20 graveyards may be situated and also money or funds to be used for
21 any of the purposes in this section expressed.

22 Any board of supervisors may, in its discretion, contribute
23 money to be used for the upkeep of graves of the Confederate dead
24 in its county.

25 (b) **Care of the aged.** For the support and maintenance
26 of such residents of the county who are worthy, indigent aged
27 inmates of the Old Ladies' Home of Jackson, Mississippi, or of the
28 Golden Age Nursing Home and Hospital for North Mississippi of
29 Greenwood, Mississippi, and not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars
30 (\$500.00) per annum for the support of the county's inmates of the
31 Old Men's Home, located near Jackson, Mississippi, and in addition
32 thereto a sum not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per
33 annum to each of said institutions for their support and
34 maintenance in the care of the aged.

35 (c) **King's Daughters.** To the King's Daughters in their
36 respective counties for charities under their supervision.

37 (d) **Travelers Aid Society.** A sum of money not
38 exceeding Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per month for the support of
39 the organization known as the Travelers Aid Society, provided the
40 same is nonsectarian.

41 (e) **Hospitals for pellagra sufferers.** For the
42 establishment and maintenance of a hospital for the treatment of
43 persons afflicted with pellagra. For this purpose the board may



44 issue bonds and incur such indebtedness within the limits now
45 authorized by law.

46 (f) **Tubercular hospitals.** For the establishment and
47 maintenance of a hospital for the care and treatment of persons
48 suffering from tuberculosis. In the execution of this power the
49 board may select trustees to establish and operate said hospital.
50 In counties having a population of more than forty thousand
51 (40,000) people, as shown by the latest United States census, the
52 board may set aside, appropriate and expend monies from the
53 general fund for the purpose of aiding in the maintenance and
54 support of hospitals maintained and operated in such county for
55 the care and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis.
56 The monies shall be expended by the board through such trustees,
57 not less than three (3) and not more than five (5), to be elected
58 by the board of supervisors annually. The trustees shall file
59 reports with the board at least once every six (6) months showing
60 in detail all expenditures made by them and the number of patients
61 which have been for the preceding period aided or cared for by the
62 institution, and the board may otherwise require a strict
63 accounting of the administration of said funds.

64 (g) **Same -- additional provisions.** The boards of
65 supervisors of one or more counties are hereby authorized and
66 empowered, in their discretion, separately or jointly, to acquire
67 by gift, purchase or lease, real estate, for tubercular hospital
68 purposes, and to own, erect, build, establish, maintain, regulate



69 and support a tubercular hospital and to remodel buildings on such
70 property to be used for such hospital purposes.

71 In the event the boards of supervisors of two (2) or more
72 counties agree to cooperate in establishing and maintaining such
73 hospital, the board of supervisors of each of said counties shall
74 adopt a resolution agreeing to the proportionate part each county
75 will contribute to the establishment and maintaining of such
76 hospital.

77 Each county operating under the provisions of this subsection
78 is hereby authorized and empowered to set aside, appropriate and
79 expend monies from the general fund for the purpose of erecting,
80 maintaining and operating such hospital.

81 (h) **Charity wards in hospitals.** A sum of money not
82 exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month to maintain a
83 charity ward or wards in any hospital in their respective
84 counties, or in the event there shall be no hospital in such
85 county, then a like sum, in their discretion, to maintain a
86 charity ward or wards in any hospital in any adjoining county
87 receiving and treating patients from such county having no
88 hospital.

89 (i) **Same -- coast counties.** The several counties of
90 this state bordering on the tidewater of the Gulf of Mexico are
91 hereby authorized and empowered, in the discretion of the proper
92 authorities thereof, to appropriate such a sum of money as said
93 authorities shall deem reasonable, to provide and maintain a



94 charity ward or wards, in any of the hospitals in said counties,
95 or, in the discretion of said authorities, to make and enter into
96 contracts with any such hospitals for the treatment and care in
97 such hospitals of the indigent sick of said counties, and to pay
98 therefor out of the general fund of such counties such sum or sums
99 as shall be a reasonable and just compensation to said hospital.
100 However, the board of supervisors of any county mentioned herein
101 may, in its discretion, make and enter into contracts with any
102 hospital in any adjoining county receiving and treating patients
103 from the respective counties mentioned herein in such hospitals of
104 the indigent sick of said counties, mentioned herein, and to pay
105 therefor out of the general fund of such county, such sum or sums
106 that shall be reasonable and just to said hospitals.

107 (j) **Public libraries.** A sum not to exceed One Thousand
108 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per annum toward the support and maintenance
109 of one or more public libraries situated in the county. In any
110 county whose total assessed valuation, including railroads and all
111 public utilities, is more than Eighteen Million Dollars
112 (\$18,000,000.00) the board, in its discretion, may appropriate a
113 sum not to exceed Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) per annum for
114 public libraries.

115 The board may also give or donate any legislative journals,
116 constitutional convention journals, printed official reports of
117 any state or county officers, official reports of departments,
118 bureaus or officers of the United States, and copies of the acts



119 of the Legislature or laws of Mississippi now or hereafter in the
120 county library of such county and not needed, in the opinion of
121 the board in the county library (but not including any Mississippi
122 reports and not including any acts of the Legislature or laws of
123 the state, unless such acts or laws be more than twenty (20) years
124 old) to any library or library association or foundation or
125 organization maintaining a free public library for reference or
126 otherwise, provided such library, association, foundation or
127 organization owns free from encumbrance a fireproof library
128 building located in this state, in which building said journals,
129 reports, acts and laws may be and shall be deposited where
130 received under this subsection and made accessible under
131 reasonable regulations to the general public. Such library,
132 association, foundation or organization shall not have the right
133 to sell or otherwise dispose of said journals, reports, acts and
134 laws. Said journals, reports, acts and laws may be returned to
135 the county library from which received without expense to the
136 county, or to the state library, without expense to the state, at
137 any time by the library, association, foundation or organization
138 receiving the same.

139 Any gift or donation made by the board of supervisors of any
140 county under the authority of this subsection shall be evidenced
141 by an order spread upon the minutes of said board. The county
142 shall bear no expense in connection with any donation. The
143 sheriff of the county, or the custodian of the county library,



144 shall deliver to the representative of the library, association,
145 foundation or organization entitled to receive the same any of
146 said journals, reports, acts, laws and official publications in
147 accordance with the directions contained in any order of the board
148 of supervisors for the delivery of the same, and shall take proper
149 receipt from the party receiving the same, and shall deliver such
150 receipt to the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county,
151 and the board of supervisors shall have the said receipt entered
152 in full on the minutes of the board.

153 Any library, association, foundation or organization
154 receiving any gift or donation from any county under this
155 subsection shall report in writing to the board of supervisors,
156 from which such gifts or donations have been received every two
157 (2) years, that the gifts and donations so received are still in
158 the possession of the donee and are accessible to the general
159 public. If any of the gifts or donations so received have been
160 lost, destroyed or have otherwise disappeared, report thereof
161 shall be made.

162 If any library, association, foundation or organization
163 receiving gifts or donations under this subsection shall cease
164 operating as a free public library or shall cease to be the owner
165 of a fireproof building in which it keeps and maintains a free
166 public library, for reference or otherwise, the said library,
167 association, foundation or organization shall thereupon
168 immediately return to the county library, without expense to the



169 county, or to the state library, without expense to the state, any
170 gifts or donations it may have received under this subsection.

171 (k) **Patriotic organizations and memorials.** A sum not
172 to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to build or aid any
173 post of the American Legion, any chapter of the Daughters of the
174 American Revolution, any chapter of the United Daughters of the
175 Confederacy, or any post, unit or chapter of any patriotic
176 organization within the county in building a memorial to the
177 veterans of World War I and World War II; and a sum not to exceed
178 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to aid in defraying the cost of
179 the erection of suitable memorials to deceased soldiers, sailors
180 and marines of the late world wars. Such appropriation may be
181 made, even though no provision has been made therefor in the
182 county budget.

183 (l) **American Red Cross.** Any board of supervisors of
184 any county in this state is hereby authorized and empowered, in
185 its discretion, to donate annually, out of any monies in its
186 respective treasury, to be drawn by warrant thereon, a sum not
187 exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per million of assessed
188 valuation to the support of a local chapter of the American Red
189 Cross.

190 (m) **St. Jude Hospital.** For the payment of mileage
191 expense for transporting persons to St. Jude Hospital in Memphis,
192 Tennessee, for treatment. The mileage shall be based on a



193 round-trip basis from the patient's place of residence to St. Jude
194 Hospital at the mileage rate set forth in Section 25-3-41.

195 (n) **Public museums.** For the support and maintenance of
196 such public museums located in the county constituted under the
197 provisions of Chapter 9, Title 39, Mississippi Code of 1972.

198 (o) **Domestic violence shelters.** The board of
199 supervisors of any county in this state is hereby authorized and
200 empowered, in its discretion, to donate annually out of any money
201 in the county treasury, such sums as the board deems advisable to
202 support any domestic violence shelter or rape crisis center
203 operating within or serving its area. For the purposes of this
204 section, "rape crisis center" means a place established to provide
205 care, counseling and related services to victims of rape,
206 attempted rape, sexual battery or attempted sexual battery.

207 (p) **Literacy programs.** The board of supervisors of any
208 county in this state is hereby authorized and empowered, in its
209 discretion, to donate out of the general fund of the county such
210 sum of money as the board deems reasonable to any literacy program
211 being conducted within the county.

212 (q) **Care of neglected children.** The board of
213 supervisors of any county in this state, in its discretion, may
214 donate annually out of any money in the county treasury such sums
215 as the board deems advisable to support any residential group home
216 for the abused, abandoned or neglected children which operates
217 within or serves the county. For the purposes of this paragraph



218 the term "residential group home" means a group residence
219 established to provide care and counseling, and to serve as a
220 home, for children who are the victims of abuse, neglect or
221 abandonment.

222 (r) **Boys and Girls Club.** To any chartered chapter of
223 the Boys and Girls Clubs of America located within the county, out
224 of any funds in the county treasury, provided that the cumulative
225 sum of donations to all chapters within the county does not exceed
226 the amount generated in the county by one-fourth (1/4) mill on all
227 of the taxable property within the county, during the fiscal year
228 in which the donations are made. Nothing in this paragraph
229 authorizes the imposition of additional tax.

230 (s) **Mississippi Burn Care Fund.** To the Mississippi
231 Burn Care Fund, subject to the limitations specified in Section
232 21-19-58.

233 (t) **Court Appointed Special Advocates.** To any chapter
234 of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), out of any funds
235 in the county treasury, provided that the cumulative sum of
236 donations to a chapter does not exceed the amount generated in the
237 county by one-fourth (1/4) mill on all of the taxable property
238 within the county, during the fiscal year in which the donations
239 are made. Nothing in this paragraph authorizes the imposition of
240 additional tax.

241 (u) **National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster**
242 **(NVOAD).** To a local chapter of NVOAD, whether in-kind



243 contributions or out of any funds in the county treasury, provided
244 that the cumulative sum of donations to a local NVOAD does not
245 exceed the amount generated in the county by one-fourth (1/4) mill
246 on all of the taxable property within the county during the fiscal
247 year in which the donations are made. Nothing in this paragraph
248 authorizes the imposition of additional tax.

249 (v) **Farmers' markets.** The board of supervisors of any
250 county in this state, in its discretion, may donate annually out
251 of any money in the county treasury, such sums as the board deems
252 advisable to support any farmers' market that is certified by the
253 Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and operating
254 within the county, not to exceed the amount that would be
255 generated from the levy of a one-fourth (1/4) mill ad valorem tax
256 upon all taxable property in the county.

257 (w) **Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).** To any
258 chartered chapter of the YMCA located within the county, out of
259 any funds in the county treasury, provided that the cumulative sum
260 of donations to all chapters within the county does not exceed the
261 amount generated in the county by one-fourth (1/4) mill on all of
262 the taxable property within the county, during the fiscal year in
263 which the donations are made. Nothing in this paragraph
264 authorizes the imposition of additional tax.

265 (x) **Main Street programs.** To any designated community
266 of the Mississippi Main Street Association that is in good
267 standing and is located within the county, out of any funds in the



268 county treasury provided that the cumulative sum of donations to
269 all designated communities within the county does not exceed the
270 amount generated in the county by one-fourth (1/4) mill on all of
271 the taxable property within the county, during the fiscal year in
272 which the donations are made. Nothing in this paragraph
273 authorizes the imposition of additional tax.

274 (y) **Civil Rights memorials, sites and destinations.**

275 A sum not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to build or
276 aid in the building of or support of any civil rights memorial,
277 site or destination within the county to aid in defraying the cost
278 of the erection of suitable memorials of deceased civil rights
279 leaders as well as support of sites and destinations pertaining to
280 the Civil Rights Movement. Such appropriation may be made, even
281 though no provision has been made therefor in the county budget.

282 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
283 and after October 1, 2023.

