

By: Representatives Byrd, Summers

To: County Affairs;
Appropriations

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; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

8 19-5-93. The board of supervisors of each county is
9 authorized, in its discretion, to donate money for the objects and
10 purposes following, to wit:

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

