

By: Representative Guice

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1188

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 57-103-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 WHICH CREATES THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FOR THE
3 PURPOSE OF REFLECTING THE CHANGE OF THE NAME OF THE MISSISSIPPI
4 TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE TO INNOVATE MISSISSIPPI; TO REVISE THE AMOUNT
5 OF ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE PROVIDED TO A BUSINESS UNDER THE
6 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 57-103-3,
7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATES THE MISSISSIPPI NEW
8 TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PROGRAM-LEVEL 1, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFLECTING
9 THE CHANGE OF THE NAME OF THE MISSISSIPPI TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE TO
10 INNOVATE MISSISSIPPI; TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE MISSISSIPPI NEW
11 TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PROGRAM-LEVEL 1 TO THE PROOF OF CONCEPT LOAN
12 PROGRAM; TO REVISE THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE PROVIDED
13 TO A BUSINESS UNDER THE PROGRAM; TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE
14 MISSISSIPPI NEW TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PROGRAM-LEVEL 1 FUND TO THE
15 PROOF OF CONCEPT LOAN FUND; TO AMEND SECTION 57-103-7, MISSISSIPPI
16 CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATES THE RURAL INNOVATION PROGRAM-LEVEL 1,
17 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFLECTING THE CHANGE OF THE NAME OF THE
18 MISSISSIPPI TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE TO INNOVATE MISSISSIPPI; TO CHANGE
19 THE NAME OF THE RURAL INNOVATION PROGRAM-LEVEL 1 TO THE PROOF OF
20 CONCEPT GRANT PROGRAM; TO CHANGE THE PROGRAM FROM A LOAN PROGRAM
21 TO A GRANT PROGRAM; TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE RURAL INNOVATION
22 PROGRAM-LEVEL 1 FUND TO THE PROOF OF CONCEPT GRANT FUND; TO
23 AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF STATE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR THE
24 PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
25 PROGRAM, THE PROOF OF CONCEPT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MISSISSIPPI NEW
26 TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PROGRAM-LEVEL 2 PROGRAM AND THE PROOF OF
27 CONCEPT GRANT PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

29 **SECTION 1.** Section 57-103-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
30 amended as follows:



31 57-103-1. (1) There is established under the direction of
32 the * * * Innovate Mississippi ("IMS") a program to be known as
33 the "Research and Development Program" for the purpose of making
34 assistance available for seed and early stage capital to small and
35 medium sized Mississippi businesses with high growth potential
36 that are engaged in research and development activities with a
37 Mississippi university, college and/or community/junior college.

38 (2) (a) In order to be eligible for assistance under the
39 program, a business must: (i) have its principal place of
40 business based in Mississippi, (ii) produce or provide a product
41 and/or service that is science or technology related, (iii) have
42 completed its product and/or service development planning, and
43 (iv) develop technology-based business opportunity in partnership
44 with a Mississippi university, college and/or community/junior
45 college.

46 (b) Any business desiring to participate in the program
47 must submit an application to * * * IMS. The application must
48 contain a technical brief and project plan for the
49 commercialization of the technology developed or proposed for
50 development by the business and any other information requested
51 by * * * IMS. If * * * IMS staff reviewing the application
52 determines that an application should be reviewed by the Seed Fund
53 Investment Board appointed by the * * * IMS Board of Directors,
54 the application shall be forwarded to the Seed Fund Investment
55 Board. If the Seed Fund Investment Board approves the



56 application, * * * IMS shall negotiate a contract with the
57 business regarding any assistance provided to the business under
58 the program, the expenditure of assistance provided to the
59 business, repayment of assistance by the business, and any other
60 matters to which the parties may agree. Any such contract must
61 provide for at least the following: (i) that any assistance
62 provided to the business will be on a reimbursement basis in which
63 the business will expend funds according to the terms of the
64 contract and submit invoices, receipts and other applicable
65 documentation and information to * * * IMS for reimbursement; (ii)
66 that no funds may be expended or used for patent prosecution,
67 reorganization of the business, or payment of any existing debt of
68 the business outstanding or otherwise incurred at the time the
69 contract is entered into; (iii) that no funds may be expended to
70 reimburse expenses for work conducted or services provided by the
71 business, a university or a third-party consultant if those
72 expenses were incurred before the term of the contract; (iv) that
73 at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the funds received by the
74 business must be expended with a Mississippi university, college
75 and/or community/junior college with which the business has a
76 contract for research and development or technology development
77 work or services; (v) that * * * IMS will pay not more than ten
78 percent (10%) of overhead expenses for the business and/or the
79 university, college and/or community/junior college; (vi) that the
80 business will provide matching funding of One Dollar (\$1.00) for



81 every One Dollar (\$1.00) of assistance, with at least fifty
82 percent (50%) of the match being in cash and the remaining amount
83 being from in-kind services, all of which must be documented by
84 time sheets, payroll receipts, invoices and other documentation or
85 information required by * * * IMS; and (vii) that the business
86 receiving assistance will retain ownership of any technology
87 developed by the business before the start of the project for
88 which assistance is received, and that rights to new intellectual
89 property developed as a result of the project will be subject to
90 mutually agreed upon terms and conditions of the collaborative
91 research agreement executed by the business and the university,
92 college and/or community/junior college before the start of the
93 project. Assistance received by a business and not expended for
94 purposes required in the contract between the business and * * *
95 IMS may be expended for hiring third-party consultants to assist
96 the business, working capital, marketing, prototype development
97 and equipment. The amount of assistance that a business may
98 receive under the program shall not exceed * * * Two Hundred Fifty
99 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) in the aggregate.

100 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a
101 business receiving assistance under the program shall be required
102 to repay the assistance in the manner provided in this paragraph.
103 Repayment shall be made through the use of a convertible note in
104 which the business will repay one hundred percent (100%) of the
105 amount of assistance received if such repayment is made within



106 thirty-six (36) months from the date the assistance is received,
107 with the amount to be repaid by the business increasing at a rate
108 determined by the parties in the contract up to an amount not to
109 exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the amount of assistance if
110 such repayment is made later than thirty-six (36) months from the
111 date the assistance is received but not later than sixty (60)
112 months from the date the assistance is received. * * * IMS shall
113 have the option of converting the amount of assistance awarded to
114 the business into common stock of the business or into a royalty
115 in the gross sales of the business. Amounts received as
116 repayments shall be deposited into the special fund created in
117 subsection (3) of this section. Notwithstanding the preceding
118 provisions of this paragraph, if the business receiving assistance
119 fails to meet certain financial performance levels established in
120 the contract between the business and * * * IMS and the contract
121 does not activate any repayment provisions, then * * * IMS will
122 deem the assistance provided to be a loss and the business
123 receiving assistance shall not be required to repay the assistance
124 received.

125 (3) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund,
126 to be designated as the "Research and Development Program Fund,"
127 which shall consist of funds appropriated or otherwise made
128 available by the Legislature. The fund shall be maintained by the
129 State Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart
130 from the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining



131 in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
132 State General Fund, and any interest earned or investment earnings
133 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited into such fund. Monies
134 in the fund shall be disbursed, in the discretion of the
135 Mississippi Development Authority, to provide funds to * * * IMS
136 for the purposes described in this section, or for the purposes
137 described in Sections 57-103-3, 57-103-5 * * * and/or
138 57-103-7 * * * if IMS determines that the funds are not needed
139 for the purposes described in this section.

140 **SECTION 2.** Section 57-103-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
141 amended as follows:

142 57-103-3. (1) There is established under the direction of
143 the * * * Innovate Mississippi ("IMS") a program to be known as
144 the "Mississippi New Technology Business Program-Level 1" for the
145 purpose of making assistance available to provide working capital
146 to support the initial capitalization of technology-based
147 businesses in Mississippi. From and after July 1, 2023, the
148 "Mississippi New Technology Business Program-Level 1" shall be
149 known as the "Proof of Concept Loan Program".

150 (2) (a) In order to be eligible for assistance under the
151 program, a business must: (i) have its principal place of
152 business based in Mississippi, and be a startup business, (ii)
153 have rights to the intellectual property supporting the venture
154 opportunity for which assistance is requested, (iii) demonstrate
155 compelling evidence for rapid growth and high performance



156 potential, (iv) be invited by * * * IMS to apply for assistance
157 based upon an agreeable scope of work.

158 (b) Any business desiring to participate in the program
159 must submit an application to * * * IMS. The application must
160 contain a description of the purposes for which the assistance is
161 requested, the amount of assistance requested and any other
162 information requested by * * * IMS. If * * * IMS staff reviewing
163 the application determines that an application should be reviewed
164 by the Seed Fund Investment Board appointed by the * * * IMS Board
165 of Directors, the application shall be forwarded to the Seed Fund
166 Investment Board. If the Seed Fund Investment Board approves the
167 application, * * * IMS shall negotiate a contract with the
168 business regarding any assistance provided to the business under
169 the program, the expenditure of the assistance provided to the
170 business, and any other matters to which the parties may agree.
171 Any such contract must provide for at least the following: (i)
172 that any assistance provided to the business will be on a
173 reimbursement basis in which the business will expend funds
174 according to the terms of the contract and submit invoices,
175 receipts and other applicable documentation and information
176 to * * * IMS for reimbursement; (ii) that no funds may be expended
177 or used for patent prosecution, reorganization of the business, or
178 payment of any existing debt of the business outstanding or
179 otherwise incurred at the time the contract is entered into; (iii)
180 that no funds may be expended to reimburse expenses for work



181 conducted or services provided by the business, a university or a
182 third-party consultant if those expenses were incurred before the
183 term of the contract; (iv) that the business receiving assistance
184 will retain ownership of any technology developed by the business
185 regardless of whether the technology is developed before or after
186 the receipt of assistance; and (v) that the business will provide
187 matching funding of One Dollar (\$1.00) for every One Dollar
188 (\$1.00) of assistance, with at least twenty-five percent (25%) of
189 the match being in cash and the remaining amount being from
190 in-kind services, all of which must be documented by time sheets,
191 payroll receipts, invoices and other documentation or information
192 required by * * * IMS. Assistance received by a business may be
193 expended for hiring third-party consultants to assist the business
194 and for equipment. The amount of assistance that a business may
195 receive under the program shall not exceed * * * Twenty-five
196 Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and any award of assistance shall be
197 made on a onetime basis.

198 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a
199 business receiving assistance under the program shall be required
200 to repay the assistance in the manner provided in this paragraph.
201 Repayment shall be made through the use of a nonrecourse loan in
202 which the business will repay the loan upon the successful
203 commercialization of the product or service. The business will
204 repay one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of assistance
205 received if such repayment is made within thirty-six (36) months



206 from the date the assistance is received, with the amount to be
207 repaid by the business increasing at a rate determined by the
208 parties in the contract up to an amount not to exceed two hundred
209 percent (200%) of the amount of assistance if such repayment is
210 made later than thirty-six (36) months from the date the
211 assistance is received but not later than sixty (60) months from
212 the date the assistance is received. Amounts received as
213 repayments shall be deposited into the special fund created in
214 subsection (3) of this section. Notwithstanding the preceding
215 provisions of this paragraph, if the business receiving assistance
216 fails to meet certain financial performance levels established in
217 the contract between the business and * * * IMS and the contract
218 does not activate any repayment provisions, then * * * IMS will
219 deem the assistance provided to be a loss and the business
220 receiving assistance shall not be required to repay the assistance
221 received.

222 (3) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund,
223 to be designated as the "Mississippi New Technology Business
224 Program-Level 1 Fund," which shall consist of funds appropriated
225 or otherwise made available by the Legislature. From and after
226 July 1, 2023, the "Mississippi New Technology Business
227 Program-Level 1 Fund" shall be known as the "Proof of Concept Loan
228 Program Fund". The fund shall be maintained by the State
229 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
230 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in



231 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
232 State General Fund, and any interest earned or investment earnings
233 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited into such fund. Monies
234 in the fund shall be disbursed, in the discretion of the
235 Mississippi Development Authority, to provide funds to * * * IMS
236 for the purposes described in this section, or for the purposes
237 described in Sections 57-103-1, 57-103-5 * * * and/or
238 57-103-7 * * * if * * * IMS determines that the funds are not
239 needed for the purposes described in this section.

240 **SECTION 3.** Section 57-103-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
241 amended as follows:

242 57-103-7. (1) There is established under the direction of
243 the * * * Innovate Mississippi ("IMS") a program to be known as
244 the "Rural Innovation Program-Level 1" for the purpose of making
245 assistance available to provide working capital to support the
246 initial capitalization of technology-based businesses in rural
247 Mississippi. From and after July 1, 2023, the "Rural Innovation
248 Program-Level 1" shall be known as the "Proof of Concept Grant
249 Program".

250 (2) (a) In order to be eligible for assistance under the
251 program, a business must: (i) have its principal place of
252 business based in * * * Mississippi, (ii) produce or provide a
253 product and/or service that is science or technology related,
254 (iii) have fewer than one hundred fifty (150) employees, and (iv)



255 have completed its product and/or service development planning.

256 * * *

257 (b) Any business desiring to participate in the program
258 must submit an application to * * * IMS. The application must
259 contain a description of the purposes for which the assistance is
260 requested, the amount of assistance requested and any other
261 information requested by * * * IMS. If * * * IMS staff reviewing
262 the application determines that an application should be reviewed
263 by the Seed Fund Investment Board appointed by the * * * IMS Board
264 of Directors, the application shall be forwarded to the Seed Fund
265 Investment Board. If the Seed Fund Investment Board approves the
266 application, * * * IMS shall negotiate a contract with the
267 business regarding any assistance provided to the business under
268 the program, the expenditure of the assistance provided to the
269 business, and any other matters to which the parties may agree.
270 Any such contract must provide for at least the following: (i)
271 that any assistance provided to the business will be on a
272 reimbursement basis in which the business will expend funds
273 according to the terms of the contract and submit invoices,
274 receipts and other applicable documentation and information
275 to * * * IMS for reimbursement; (ii) that no funds may be expended
276 or used for patent prosecution, reorganization of the business, or
277 payment of any existing debt of the business outstanding or
278 otherwise incurred at the time the contract is entered into; (iii)
279 that no funds may be expended to reimburse expenses for work



280 conducted or services provided by the business, a university or a
281 third-party consultant if those expenses were incurred before the
282 term of the contract; (iv) that the business receiving assistance
283 will retain ownership of any technology developed by the business
284 regardless of whether the technology is developed before or after
285 the receipt of assistance; and (v) that the business will provide
286 matching funding of One Dollar (\$1.00) for every One Dollar
287 (\$1.00) of assistance, with at least twenty-five percent (25%) of
288 the match being in cash and the remaining amount being from
289 in-kind services, all of which must be documented by time sheets,
290 payroll receipts, invoices and other documentation or information
291 required by * * * IMS. Assistance received by a business may be
292 expended for hiring third-party consultants to assist the business
293 and for equipment. The amount of assistance that a business may
294 receive under the program shall not exceed Ten Thousand Dollars
295 (\$10,000.00) and any award of assistance shall be made on a
296 onetime basis.

297 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a
298 business receiving assistance under the program shall not be
299 required to repay the assistance * * * unless IMS determines that
300 the business has violated significant terms of their agreement,
301 presented false information, or misrepresented facts in their
302 application. If it is determined the business violated terms or
303 submitted false or knowingly incorrect information, the business



304 will be required to repay one hundred percent (100%) of the amount
305 of assistance received.

306 (3) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund,
307 to be designated as the "Rural Innovation Program-Level 1 Fund,"
308 which shall consist of funds appropriated or otherwise made
309 available by the Legislature. From and after July 1, 2023, the
310 "Rural Innovation Program-Level 1 Fund" shall be known as the
311 "Proof of Concept Grant Program Fund". The fund shall be
312 maintained by the State Treasurer as a separate and special fund,
313 separate and apart from the General Fund of the state. Unexpended
314 amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall
315 not lapse into the State General Fund, and any interest earned or
316 investment earnings on amounts in the fund shall be deposited into
317 such fund. Monies in the fund shall be disbursed, in the
318 discretion of the Mississippi Development Authority, to provide
319 funds to * * * IMS for the purposes described in this section, or
320 for the purposes described in Sections 57-103-1, 57-103-3,
321 57-103-5 and/or 57-103-9 if * * * IMS determines that the funds
322 are not needed for the purposes described in this section.

323 **SECTION 4.** (1) As used in this section, the following words
324 shall have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context clearly
325 requires otherwise:

326 (a) "Accreted value" of any bonds means, as of any date
327 of computation, an amount equal to the sum of (i) the stated
328 initial value of such bond, plus (ii) the interest accrued thereon



329 from the issue date to the date of computation at the rate,
330 compounded semiannually, that is necessary to produce the
331 approximate yield to maturity shown for bonds of the same
332 maturity.

333 (b) "State" means the State of Mississippi.

334 (c) "Commission" means the State Bond Commission.

335 (2) (a) The commission, at one time, or from time to time,
336 may declare by resolution the necessity for issuance of general
337 obligation bonds of the State of Mississippi to provide funds for
338 the programs authorized in Sections 57-103-1, 57-103-3, 57-103-5
339 and 57-103-7. Upon the adoption of a resolution by the
340 Mississippi Development Authority declaring the necessity for the
341 issuance of any part or all of the general obligation bonds
342 authorized by this section, the Mississippi Development Authority
343 shall deliver a certified copy of its resolution or resolutions to
344 the commission. Upon receipt of such resolution, the commission,
345 in its discretion, may act as the issuing agent, prescribe the
346 form of the bonds, determine the appropriate method for sale of
347 the bonds, advertise for and accept bids or negotiate the sale of
348 the bonds, issue and sell the bonds so authorized to be sold, and
349 do any and all other things necessary and advisable in connection
350 with the issuance and sale of such bonds. The total amount of
351 bonds issued under this section shall not exceed Two Million
352 Dollars (\$2,000,000.00). No bonds authorized under this section
353 shall be issued after July 1, 2027.



354 (b) The proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this
355 section shall be deposited into the following special funds in not
356 more than the following amounts:

357 (i) The Research and Development Program Fund
358 created pursuant to Section 57-103-1.....\$750,000.00.

359 (ii) The Proof of Concept Loan 1 Fund created
360 pursuant to Section 57-103-3
361\$ 550,000.00.

362 (iii) The Mississippi New Technology Business
363 Program-Level 2 Fund created pursuant to Section 57-103-5
364\$500,000.00.

365 (iv) The Proof of Concept Grant Fund created
366 pursuant to Section 57-103-7.....\$ 200,000.00.

367 (c) Any investment earnings on bonds issued pursuant to
368 this section shall be used to pay debt service on bonds issued
369 under this section, in accordance with the proceedings authorizing
370 issuance of such bonds.

371 (3) The principal of and interest on the bonds authorized
372 under this section shall be payable in the manner provided in this
373 section. Such bonds shall bear such date or dates, be in such
374 denomination or denominations, bear interest at such rate or rates
375 (not to exceed the limits set forth in Section 75-17-101,
376 Mississippi Code of 1972), be payable at such place or places
377 within or without the State of Mississippi, shall mature
378 absolutely at such time or times not to exceed twenty-five (25)



379 years from date of issue, be redeemable before maturity at such
380 time or times and upon such terms, with or without premium, shall
381 bear such registration privileges, and shall be substantially in
382 such form, all as shall be determined by resolution of the
383 commission.

384 (4) The bonds authorized by this section shall be signed by
385 the chairman of the commission, or by his facsimile signature, and
386 the official seal of the commission shall be affixed thereto,
387 attested by the secretary of the commission. The interest
388 coupons, if any, to be attached to such bonds may be executed by
389 the facsimile signatures of such officers. Whenever any such
390 bonds shall have been signed by the officials designated to sign
391 the bonds who were in office at the time of such signing but who
392 may have ceased to be such officers before the sale and delivery
393 of such bonds, or who may not have been in office on the date such
394 bonds may bear, the signatures of such officers upon such bonds
395 and coupons shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all
396 purposes and have the same effect as if the person so officially
397 signing such bonds had remained in office until their delivery to
398 the purchaser, or had been in office on the date such bonds may
399 bear. However, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary,
400 such bonds may be issued as provided in the Registered Bond Act of
401 the State of Mississippi.

402 (5) All bonds and interest coupons issued under the
403 provisions of this section have all the qualities and incidents of



404 negotiable instruments under the provisions of the Uniform
405 Commercial Code, and in exercising the powers granted by this
406 section, the commission shall not be required to and need not
407 comply with the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code.

408 (6) The commission shall act as issuing agent for the bonds
409 authorized under this section, prescribe the form of the bonds,
410 determine the appropriate method for sale of the bonds, advertise
411 for and accept bids or negotiate sale of the bonds, issue and sell
412 the bonds so authorized to be sold, pay all fees and costs
413 incurred in such issuance and sale, and do any and all other
414 things necessary and advisable in connection with the issuance and
415 sale of such bonds. The commission is authorized and empowered to
416 pay the costs that are incident to the sale, issuance and delivery
417 of the bonds authorized under this section from the proceeds
418 derived from the sale of such bonds. The commission may sell such
419 bonds on sealed bids at public sale or may negotiate the sale of
420 the bonds for such price as it may determine to be for the best
421 interest of the State of Mississippi. All interest accruing on
422 such bonds so issued shall be payable semiannually or annually.

423 If such bonds are sold by sealed bids at public sale, notice
424 of the sale shall be published at least one time, not less than
425 ten (10) days before the date of sale, and shall be so published
426 in one or more newspapers published or having a general
427 circulation in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, selected by the
428 commission.



429 The commission, when issuing any bonds under the authority of
430 this section, may provide that bonds, at the option of the State
431 of Mississippi, may be called in for payment and redemption at the
432 call price named therein and accrued interest on such date or
433 dates named therein.

434 (7) The bonds issued under the provisions of this section
435 are general obligations of the State of Mississippi, and for the
436 payment thereof the full faith and credit of the State of
437 Mississippi is irrevocably pledged. If the funds appropriated by
438 the Legislature are insufficient to pay the principal of and the
439 interest on such bonds as they become due, then the deficiency
440 shall be paid by the State Treasurer from any funds in the State
441 Treasury not otherwise appropriated. All such bonds shall contain
442 recitals on their faces substantially covering the provisions of
443 this section.

444 (8) Upon the issuance and sale of bonds under the provisions
445 of this section, the commission shall transfer the proceeds of any
446 such sale or sales to the special funds created in Sections
447 57-103-1, 57-103-3, 57-103-5 and 57-103-7, in the amounts provided
448 in subsection (2) (b) of this section. The proceeds of such bonds
449 shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in Sections 57-103-1,
450 57-103-3, 57-103-5 and 57-103-7.

451 (9) The bonds authorized under this section may be issued
452 without any other proceedings or the happening of any other
453 conditions or things other than those proceedings, conditions and



454 things which are specified or required by this section. Any
455 resolution providing for the issuance of bonds under the
456 provisions of this section shall become effective immediately upon
457 its adoption by the commission, and any such resolution may be
458 adopted at any regular or special meeting of the commission by a
459 majority of its members.

460 (10) The bonds authorized under the authority of this
461 section may be validated in the Chancery Court of the First
462 Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, in the manner and
463 with the force and effect provided by Chapter 13, Title 31,
464 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the validation of county, municipal,
465 school district and other bonds. The notice to taxpayers required
466 by such statutes shall be published in a newspaper published or
467 having a general circulation in the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

468 (11) Any holder of bonds issued under the provisions of this
469 section or of any of the interest coupons pertaining thereto may,
470 either at law or in equity, by suit, action, mandamus or other
471 proceeding, protect and enforce any and all rights granted under
472 this section, or under such resolution, and may enforce and compel
473 performance of all duties required by this section to be
474 performed, in order to provide for the payment of bonds and
475 interest thereon.

476 (12) All bonds issued under the provisions of this section
477 shall be legal investments for trustees and other fiduciaries, and
478 for savings banks, trust companies and insurance companies



479 organized under the laws of the State of Mississippi, and such
480 bonds shall be legal securities which may be deposited with and
481 shall be received by all public officers and bodies of this state
482 and all municipalities and political subdivisions for the purpose
483 of securing the deposit of public funds.

484 (13) Bonds issued under the provisions of this section and
485 income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the State of
486 Mississippi.

487 (14) The proceeds of the bonds issued under this section
488 shall be used solely for the purposes therein provided, including
489 the costs incident to the issuance and sale of such bonds.

490 (15) The State Treasurer is authorized, without further
491 process of law, to certify to the Department of Finance and
492 Administration the necessity for warrants, and the Department of
493 Finance and Administration is authorized and directed to issue
494 such warrants, in such amounts as may be necessary to pay when due
495 the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, or the
496 accreted value of, all bonds issued under this section; and the
497 State Treasurer shall forward the necessary amount to the
498 designated place or places of payment of such bonds in ample time
499 to discharge such bonds, or the interest thereon, on the due dates
500 thereof.

501 (16) This section shall be deemed to be full and complete
502 authority for the exercise of the powers therein granted, but this



503 section shall not be deemed to repeal or to be in derogation of
504 any existing law of this state.

505 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
506 and after July 1, 2023.

