

By: Representatives Read, Stamps

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1716

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE MISSISSIPPI  
3 MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE  
4 FISCAL YEAR 2024.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be  
7 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus  
8 State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
9 Department of Environmental Quality for the purpose of funding the  
10 Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant  
11 Program established in Section 49-2-131, Mississippi Code of 1972,  
12 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30,  
13 2024.....\$ 41,000,000.00.

14 **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section and Section 3 of  
15 this act, the term "department" means the Department of  
16 Environmental Quality.

17 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds appropriated  
18 under this act to any recipient without first: (a) making an  
19 individualized determination that the expenditure sought is, in



20 the department's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures  
21 eligible under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as  
22 added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of  
23 2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance, rules,  
24 regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or  
25 supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of  
26 the Treasury; and (b) determining that the recipient has not  
27 received and will not receive reimbursement for the expense in  
28 question from any source of funds, including insurance proceeds,  
29 other than those funds provided under Section 602 of the federal  
30 Social Security Act as added by Section 9901 of ARPA. In  
31 addition, the department shall ensure that all funds appropriated  
32 under this act are disbursed in compliance with the Single Audit  
33 Act (31 USC Sections 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the  
34 Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Section 200.303 regarding internal  
35 controls, Sections 200.330 through 200.332 regarding sub-recipient  
36 monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit  
37 requirements.

38       **SECTION 3.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending  
39 the funds appropriated to the department under this act, the  
40 department shall certify to the Department of Finance and  
41 Administration that each expenditure of the funds appropriated to  
42 the department under this act complies with the guidelines,  
43 guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be  
44 amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the



45 Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State  
46 Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA.

47 (2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States  
48 Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of  
49 any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies  
50 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by  
51 ARPA (a) determines that the department or recipient has expended  
52 or otherwise used any of the funds appropriated to the department  
53 under this act for any purpose that is not in compliance with the  
54 guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as  
55 may be amended from time to time, of the United States Department  
56 of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus  
57 State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA, and (b) the State  
58 of Mississippi is required to repay the federal government for any  
59 of those funds that the Office of the Inspector General determined  
60 were expended or otherwise used improperly by the department or  
61 recipient, then the department or recipient that expended or  
62 otherwise used those funds improperly shall be required to pay the  
63 amount of those funds to the State of Mississippi for repayment to  
64 the federal government.

65 **SECTION 4.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid  
66 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the Coronavirus State  
67 Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants  
68 issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer



69 shall issue his or her warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
70 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

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

