

House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2848

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

58 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-104-321, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
59 brought forward as follows:

60 27-104-321. (1) All funds received by or on behalf of the
61 State of Mississippi through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
62 Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
63 (Public Law No. 117-2) shall be deposited into the Coronavirus
64 State Fiscal Recovery Fund created in subsection (2) of this
65 section.

66 (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to
67 be designated as the "Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund."
68 The special fund shall consist of funds required to be deposited
69 into the special fund by subsection (1) of this section, funds
70 appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature in any
71 manner, and funds from any other source designated for deposit
72 into the special fund. Monies in the fund shall only be spent
73 upon appropriation by the Legislature and shall only be used as
74 provided in the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section

75 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law No.
76 117-2) or as authorized by federal rule or regulation or
77 guidelines.

78 (3) Unexpended amounts remaining in the special fund at the
79 end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General Fund
80 but shall remain in the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.
81 Any investment earnings or interest earned on amounts in the
82 special fund shall be deposited to the credit of the special fund.

83 **SECTION 2.** Section 27-104-323, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
84 amended as follows:

85 27-104-323. (1) All funds received by or on behalf of the
86 State of Mississippi through the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery
87 Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
88 (Public Law No. 117-2) for distribution to nonentitlement units of
89 local government shall be deposited into the Coronavirus Local
90 Fiscal Recovery Fund created in subsection (2) of this section.

91 (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to
92 be designated as the "Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund" to
93 be administered by the Department of Finance and Administration.
94 The special fund shall consist of funds required to be deposited
95 into the special fund by subsection (1) of this section, funds
96 appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature in any
97 manner, and funds from any other source designated for deposit
98 into the special fund. The Department of Finance and
99 Administration shall distribute the funds to the nonentitlement
100 units of local government in accordance with the Coronavirus Local

101 Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan
102 Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2) and any applicable federal
103 guidelines. Such funds shall only be used as provided in the
104 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the
105 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2) or as
106 authorized by federal rule or regulation or guidelines.

107 (3) Unexpended amounts remaining in the special fund at the
108 end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General Fund
109 but shall remain in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.
110 The State Fiscal Officer shall transfer to the Coronavirus State
111 Fiscal Recovery Fund the full amount of any investment earnings or
112 interest earned on amounts in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal
113 Recovery Fund that are remaining in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal
114 Recovery Fund on July 1, 2024. Any investment earnings or
115 interest earned on amounts in the * * * Coronavirus Local Fiscal
116 Recovery Fund after July 1, 2024, shall be deposited to the credit
117 of the * * * Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund created in
118 Section 27-104-321.

119 (4) The State Fiscal Officer is authorized, in his or her
120 discretion, to transfer to the federal government any funds in the
121 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund that have not been used for
122 the purpose for which they were received.

123 (5) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2026.

124 **SECTION 3.** Section 27-104-325, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
125 brought forward as follows:

126 27-104-325. There is created in the State Treasury a special
127 fund to be designated as the "Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
128 Lost Revenue Fund," which shall consist of funds calculated based
129 on a reduction in the state's general revenue due to the
130 coronavirus public health emergency, made available through the
131 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the American
132 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and transferred into the fund by act of
133 the Legislature. The fund shall be maintained by the State
134 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
135 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
136 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
137 State General Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned
138 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the
139 fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the Department of
140 Finance and Administration, upon appropriation by the Legislature,
141 for the purpose of providing government services.

142 **SECTION 4.** Section 37-153-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
143 brought forward as follows:

144 37-153-57. (1) There is established the Accelerate
145 Mississippi Workforce Development Program, which shall be directed
146 by the office for the purpose of providing education and training
147 to citizens seeking employment in high-wage, high-demand
148 industries in the state, including, but not limited to, the
149 nursing and healthcare fields, which were impacted by the
150 disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19. This
151 program shall be subject to the availability of funds appropriated

152 by the Legislature using Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds
153 made available under ARPA or any other funds appropriated by the
154 Legislature.

155 (2) As used in this section, the following words have the
156 meanings ascribed unless the context requires otherwise:

157 (a) "Recipient" means a community college, institution
158 of higher learning, or trainee recipient of grant funding under
159 this section.

160 (b) "Trainee" means an individual receiving training or
161 other services through programs under this article with the goal
162 of becoming employed in a high-wage, high-demand industry.

163 (c) "High-wage, high-demand industry" means those
164 industries paying above Mississippi's median annual income and
165 prioritized by the office and the four (4) local workforce areas.

166 (d) "Eligible expenses" means a cost incurred by a
167 recipient, pursuant to this article, to include:

168 (i) Necessary equipment or other supplies;

169 (ii) Curricula or other academic or training
170 materials;

171 (iii) Remote learning or other classroom
172 technology;

173 (iv) Stipends for teaching staff or faculty for
174 workforce development programs;

175 (v) Trainee support, including tuition expenses
176 and childcare or transportation assistance;

177 (vi) Coaching or mentoring services;

- 178 (vii) Job placement services;
- 179 (viii) Apprenticeship programs; and
- 180 (ix) Recruitment programs.

181 (3) The Department of Employment Security shall serve as
182 fiscal agent in administering the funds.

183 (4) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, allocations
184 to recipients shall be awarded by the office through an
185 application process, which shall require the applicant to provide:

186 (a) A detailed explanation of the program the applicant
187 intends to use awarded funds to create or expand, including:

188 (i) A description of the high-wage, high-demand
189 field or workforce shortage area the program is intended to
190 address;

191 (ii) The number of trainees who will be served by
192 the program; and

193 (iii) The average wage rate for trainees receiving
194 employment after completing the program;

195 (b) A proposed budget on how awarded funds will be
196 expended, including a plan to consistently report expenditures to
197 the office throughout the funding commitment;

198 (c) A plan to provide data on participation and
199 outcomes of the program, including a plan to report outcomes to
200 the office throughout the funding commitment; and

201 (d) Other relevant information as determined
202 appropriate by the office.

203 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
204 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief
205 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as
206 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
207 approved program will be prioritized for approval.

208 (6) The office shall:

209 (a) Inform each recipient of its portion of the funds
210 appropriated to the grant program;

211 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
212 administration of the grant program;

213 (c) Prioritize high-wage, high-skill industries,
214 including, but not limited to, nursing jobs or other jobs within
215 the healthcare field; and

216 (d) Coordinate with the Department of Employment
217 Security to share information to identify individuals who were
218 furloughed, unemployed, underemployed or otherwise displaced due
219 to COVID-19.

220 (7) The office may use a maximum of two percent (2%) of
221 funds allocated for this article for the administration of the
222 grant program, to the extent permissible under federal law.

223 **SECTION 5.** Section 37-153-205, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
224 brought forward as follows:

225 37-153-205. (1) There is established the Accelerate
226 Mississippi Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program, which shall be
227 directed by the office for the purpose of increasing capacity in
228 nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited

229 paramedic programs, job sectors which were severely impacted by
230 the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19.

231 (2) For purposes of this section, the following words shall
232 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context requires
233 otherwise:

234 (a) "Grant program" means the program established in
235 this section, which provides funding, as determined by the office,
236 from federal COVID-19 relief funds to sustain and increase
237 capacity in nursing and allied health education and training
238 programs, including accredited paramedic programs, or to help
239 retain and graduate nursing and allied health students, at
240 community and junior colleges or other entities facilitating
241 healthcare-focused training programs as determined by the office.

242 (b) "Recipient" means a community or junior college or
243 other entities facilitating healthcare-focused training programs
244 as determined by the office.

245 (c) "Trainee" means an individual receiving training or
246 other services through the grant program under this article with
247 the goal of becoming employed in the nursing or allied health
248 field, including as a licensed paramedic.

249 (d) "COVID-19" means the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

250 (e) "Federal COVID-19 relief funds" means funds
251 allocated to the State of Mississippi from the Coronavirus State
252 Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan
253 Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2).

254 (f) "High-wage, high-demand industry" means those
255 nursing or allied health jobs, including paramedics, paying above
256 Mississippi's median annual income and prioritized by the office.

257 (g) "Eligible expenses" means a cost incurred by a
258 recipient under this article, to include:

259 (i) Necessary equipment or other supplies to
260 sustain or increase capacity in nursing or allied health training
261 programs, including accredited paramedic programs;

262 (ii) Necessary infrastructure, including building
263 renovation or construction, for increasing capacity in nursing or
264 allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic
265 programs;

266 (iii) Curricula or other academic or training
267 materials to sustain or increase capacity in nursing or allied
268 health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs;

269 (iv) Remote learning or other classroom technology
270 to sustain or increase capacity in nursing or allied health
271 training programs, including accredited paramedic programs;

272 (v) Job placement services for nursing or allied
273 health students and graduates, including those in accredited
274 paramedic programs;

275 (vi) Recruitment programs for nursing or allied
276 health students and graduates, including those in accredited
277 paramedic programs;

278 (vii) Other services aimed at helping retain and
279 graduate current nursing and allied health students, including
280 those in accredited paramedic programs.

281 (3) The Department of Employment Security shall serve as
282 fiscal agent in administering the funds.

283 (4) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, allocations
284 to recipients shall be awarded by the office through an
285 application process, which shall require the applicant to provide:

286 (a) A detailed explanation of the program the applicant
287 intends to use awarded funds to create or expand, to include:

288 (i) A description of the nursing or allied health
289 workforce shortage the program is intended to address, including
290 specific information from hospitals, clinics, long-term care
291 facilities or other health care providers in the region;

292 (ii) Any relevant waitlist or other information
293 demonstrating high demand for graduates from the relevant nursing
294 or allied health program;

295 (iii) The number of nursing or allied health
296 students who will be served by the program; and

297 (iv) The average wage rate for nursing or allied
298 health students receiving employment after completing the program;

299 (b) A proposed budget on how awarded funds will be
300 expended, including a plan to consistently report expenditures to
301 the office throughout the funding commitment;

302 (c) A plan to provide data on participation and
303 outcomes of the program, including a plan to report outcomes to
304 the office throughout the funding commitment; and

305 (d) Other relevant information as determined
306 appropriate by the office.

307 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
308 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief
309 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as
310 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
311 approved program will be prioritized for approval.

312 (6) The office shall:

313 (a) Inform each recipient of its portion of the funds
314 appropriated to the grant program;

315 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
316 administration of the grant program;

317 (c) Prioritize jobs within the nursing or allied health
318 fields which are currently experiencing staffing shortages in
319 hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities and other health
320 care providers across the state; and

321 (d) Prioritize jobs which are high-wage, high-demand
322 jobs within the nursing and allied health fields, including the
323 paramedic field.

324 (7) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the funds provided through
325 the appropriations process for this program shall be reserved for
326 community and junior colleges. A maximum of twenty-five percent
327 (25%) of the funds provided through the appropriations process for

328 this program may be awarded to recipients other than a community
329 or junior college which facilitate healthcare-focused training
330 programs as determined by the office.

331 **SECTION 6.** Section 37-153-207, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
332 brought forward as follows:

333 37-153-207. (1) There is established the Accelerate
334 Mississippi Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant
335 Program, which shall be directed by the office for the purpose of
336 creating new or increasing capacity in existing physician
337 residency and fellowship programs in hospitals, which were
338 severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce
339 caused by COVID-19.

340 (2) For purposes of this section, the following words shall
341 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context requires
342 otherwise:

343 (a) "Grant program" means the program established in
344 this section, which provides funding, as determined by the office,
345 from federal COVID-19 relief funds to create new or increase
346 capacity in existing physician residency and fellowship programs
347 at general acute care hospitals in the State of Mississippi which
348 are licensed by the Mississippi State Department of Health.

349 (b) "Recipient" means a general acute care hospital in
350 the State of Mississippi which is licensed by the Mississippi
351 State Department of Health.

352 (c) "Residency and fellowship programs" means advanced
353 training programs in medical or surgical specialty areas which are

354 accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
355 Education or a similar accreditation body.

356 (d) "COVID-19" means the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

357 (e) "Federal COVID-19 relief funds" means funds
358 allocated to the State of Mississippi from the Coronavirus State
359 Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan
360 Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2).

361 (f) "Eligible expenses" means a cost incurred by a
362 recipient, pursuant to this article, to include:

363 (i) Equipment or other supplies necessary for
364 accreditation;

365 (ii) Necessary infrastructure, including building,
366 renovation or construction, for accreditation;

367 (iii) Curricula or other academic or training
368 materials necessary for accreditation;

369 (iv) Stipends for the recruitment, hiring and
370 development of program directors, program coordinators, faculty
371 and/or teaching staff and clinic staff necessary for
372 accreditation; and

373 (v) Remote learning or other classroom technology.

374 (3) The Department of Employment Security shall serve as
375 fiscal agent in administering the funds.

376 (4) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, allocations
377 to recipients shall be awarded by the office through an
378 application process, which shall require the applicant to provide:

379 (a) Evidence that the applicant is in the process of
380 preparing for accreditation, has applied for accreditation or has
381 received accreditation for a new residency or fellowship program,
382 or increased capacity in an existing residency or fellowship
383 program;

384 (b) A detailed explanation of the residency or
385 fellowship program the applicant intends to use awarded funds to
386 create or expand, to include:

387 (i) A description of the workforce shortage the
388 residency or fellowship program is intended to address, including
389 specific information from health care providers in the region;

390 (ii) Any relevant waitlist or other information
391 demonstrating high demand for medical school graduates to enter
392 the residency or fellowship program;

393 (iii) The number of residents who will be served
394 by the residency or fellowship program;

395 (iv) The budget for the residency or fellowship
396 program, including a plan showing sustainability after
397 accreditation and any required federal approval of the program;
398 and

399 (v) The average wage rate for residents or fellows
400 receiving employment after completing the program;

401 (c) A proposed budget on how awarded funds will be
402 expended, including a plan to consistently report expenditures to
403 the office throughout the funding commitment;

404 (d) A plan to provide data on participation and
405 outcomes of the residency or fellowship program, including a plan
406 to report outcomes to the office throughout the funding
407 commitment; and

408 (e) Other relevant information as determined
409 appropriate by the office.

410 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
411 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief
412 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as
413 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
414 approved program shall be prioritized for approval.

415 (6) The office shall:

416 (a) Inform each recipient of its portion of the funds
417 appropriated to the grant program;

418 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
419 administration of the grant program;

420 (c) Prioritize residency or fellowship programs within
421 medical or surgical specialties which are currently experiencing
422 staffing shortages in hospitals, clinics, long-term care
423 facilities and other health care providers across the state;

424 (d) Prioritize residency or fellowship programs which
425 produce graduates in high-demand medical and surgical fields;

426 (e) Establish a schedule of application deadlines and a
427 system for considering applications on a rotating basis; and

428 (f) Ensure that every effort be made, in accordance
429 with the priorities in this subsection, to provide funds for the

430 placement of one (1) resident with each recipient before
431 considering awarding funds for the placement of additional
432 residents in the same round of consideration.

433 **SECTION 7.** Section 37-153-209, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
434 brought forward as follows:

435 37-153-209. (1) There is established the Mississippi Allied
436 Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program, which shall be
437 directed by the office for the purpose of hiring professionals, or
438 navigators, to provide individual assistance and guidance to
439 students to assist them in many areas, from maneuvering challenges
440 while enrolled in college programs and understanding the job
441 market to working through course challenges, and to help retain
442 and graduate nursing and allied health students, at community and
443 junior colleges. Such navigators must be at least a registered
444 nurse with at least two (2) years of experience in nursing. The
445 grant program shall be funded from monies appropriated by the
446 Legislature for that purpose.

447 (2) The office shall prescribe the terms and conditions of
448 the grant program. To be eligible to receive a grant from the
449 office under the grant program, a community college shall provide
450 the following information:

451 (a) The number of nursing or allied health students who
452 will be served by the program;

453 (b) A plan to provide data on participation and
454 outcomes of the program, including a plan to report outcomes to
455 the office throughout the funding commitment; and

456 (c) Any other information that the office determines is
457 necessary.

458 **SECTION 8.** Section 37-106-64, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
459 brought forward as follows:

460 37-106-64. (1) There is established the "Skilled Nursing
461 Home and Hospital Nurses Retention Loan Repayment Program" for new
462 nursing graduates to be administered by the Mississippi
463 Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board.

464 (2) Subject to the availability of funds, an eligible
465 applicant for an initial award must have:

466 (a) Legal residency in the State of Mississippi;

467 (b) Gained employment within the last year for the
468 first time as a full-time licensed practical nurse or licensed
469 registered nurse at a skilled nursing home in the State of
470 Mississippi or a general acute care hospital in the State of
471 Mississippi that is licensed by the Mississippi State Department
472 of Health;

473 (c) A current relevant Mississippi professional
474 license; and

475 (d) Outstanding qualifying educational loans, received
476 at any point during the recipients postsecondary education career,
477 which may include the principal, interest and related expenses
478 such as the required interest premium on the unpaid balances of
479 government and commercial loans obtained by the recipient for
480 educational expense.

481 (3) Persons who have received funds from state-forgivable
482 loan programs established under Mississippi law, or who are in
483 default or delinquent on any federal, state, local or commercial
484 qualifying educational loan, shall not be eligible for this
485 program.

486 (4) Recipients in the program shall be selected on a
487 first-come, first-served basis from all eligible applicants. The
488 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board
489 shall renew eligible applicants approved in prior years only if
490 the renewal applicant continues to meet the standards set forth in
491 this act, and the renewal applicant has not received full funding
492 provided by this subsection (4).

493 (5) Awards for recipients who are employed at a skilled
494 nursing home or a licensed general acute care hospital in the
495 state may be a maximum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for
496 each year of employment up to three (3) years.

497 (6) A recipient shall not be penalized for ending employment
498 at a skilled nursing home or a licensed general acute care
499 hospital in the State of Mississippi if the recipient begins
500 working for another skilled nursing home or licensed general acute
501 care hospital in the State of Mississippi during the year on which
502 the award is based.

503 (7) Awards shall be granted on a year-to-year basis, and
504 recipients have no obligation to seek a subsequent award.

505 (8) Awards shall be paid annually, after the expiration of
506 the year of employment for which the award was granted, to the

507 recipient's lender or loan service provider, to be applied to the
508 outstanding balance. Monies paid by the recipient or on the
509 recipient's behalf toward qualifying educational loans before
510 payment of the award shall not be eligible for reimbursement
511 through the program.

512 (9) During the employment year for which the award is
513 granted, a recipient shall at all times keep the State Financial
514 Aid Board informed of any changes to the recipient's current,
515 correct and complete employment information and status.

516 (10) Recipients who fail to maintain a relevant Mississippi
517 professional license or fail to fulfill the year of employment on
518 which the award was based forfeit any right to the award.

519 (11) The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial
520 Assistance Board, in collaboration with the State Board of Nursing
521 and any other applicable state agency as determined by the
522 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board,
523 shall attempt to track award recipients under this program through
524 their third employment year, unless the recipient leaves
525 employment at a skilled nursing home or a licensed general acute
526 care hospital in the state at an earlier date. Data collected
527 shall include each recipients' place of employment and any other
528 pertinent information necessary to determine the efficacy of the
529 program in retaining nurses in skilled nursing homes or licensed
530 general acute care hospitals in the State of Mississippi.

531 (12) The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial
532 Assistance Board shall promulgate regulations necessary for the

533 proper administration of this section, including setting a fiscal
534 year policy for the program and application dates and deadlines.

535 (13) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2027.

536 **SECTION 9.** Section 41-3-16.1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
537 amended as follows:

538 41-3-16.1. (1) (a) The State Department of Health
539 (department) shall establish a grant program to be known as the
540 ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program
541 (program) to assist rural water associations and entities in the
542 construction of eligible drinking water infrastructure projects as
543 provided in the Final Rule for the Coronavirus State and Local
544 Fiscal Recovery Funds as established by the federal American
545 Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

546 (b) Rural water associations and any entity that
547 received funding under the ARPA Rural Water Associations
548 Infrastructure Grant Program or the Mississippi Municipality and
549 County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program before April 14,
550 2023, shall be ineligible for additional grants under this
551 section.

552 (2) The program shall be funded from appropriations by the
553 Legislature to the department from the Coronavirus State Fiscal
554 Recovery Fund, and the department shall expend all such funds for
555 the purposes provided in subsection (1) of this section.

556 (3) The department shall obligate the funds by the deadline
557 set by the rules and guidelines of the United States Department of
558 the Treasury and will adhere to the Treasury's rules and

559 guidelines for reporting and monitoring projects funded through
560 ARPA.

561 (4) (a) The department shall develop a system for use in
562 ranking the grant applications received. The ranking system shall
563 include the following factors, at a minimum: (a) the
564 environmental impact of the proposed project; (b) the proposed
565 project's ability to address noncompliance with state/federal
566 requirements; (c) the extent to which the project promotes
567 economic development; (d) the number of people served by the
568 project (both new and existing users); (e) impacts of the proposed
569 project on disadvantaged/ overburdened communities; (f) the grant
570 applicant's prior efforts to secure funding to address the
571 proposed project's objectives; (g) the grant applicant's proposed
572 contribution of other funds or in-kind cost-sharing to the
573 proposed project; (h) the grant applicant's long-term plans for
574 the financial and physical operation and maintenance of the
575 project; and (i) the grant applicant's capacity to initiate
576 construction in a timely manner and complete the proposed project
577 by the deadline specified by rules and guidelines of the United
578 States Department of the Treasury for ARPA funds.

579 (b) For the second round of grant awards, subject to
580 the provisions of paragraph (d) of this subsection, the department
581 shall * * * add ten (10) points to any grant * * * application
582 that promotes the consolidation of separate systems. In order to
583 receive the additional * * * ten (10) points, the systems that

584 will consolidate shall be in a proximity of each other as
585 determined by the department.

586 (c) * * * For the second round of grant awards, subject
587 to the provisions of paragraph (d) of this subsection, the
588 department shall add ten (10) points * * * to any application with
589 at least one (1) system that has consolidated after January 1,
590 2018, and before application to this program and is otherwise
591 eligible under this section, regardless of whether the application
592 would result in additional consolidation in the future.

593 (d) If an application has received an additional ten
594 (10) points under paragraph (b), it shall not receive any
595 additional points under paragraph (c); and if an application has
596 received an additional ten (10) points under paragraph (c), it
597 shall not receive any additional points under paragraph (b). No
598 application will receive more than a total of ten (10) additional
599 points under this subsection for any past or future consolidation
600 of systems.

601 (5) An application for a grant under this section shall be
602 submitted at such time, be in such form, and contain such
603 information as the department prescribes.

604 (6) (a) Upon the approval of an application for a grant
605 under this section, the department shall enter into a project
606 grant agreement with each grantee to establish the terms of the
607 grant for the project, including the amount of the grant.

608 (b) (i) For the first award of grants, the maximum
609 amount of funds that may be provided to any rural water

610 association or entity from all grants under the program is Two
611 Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00).

612 (ii) For the second round of grant awards, the
613 maximum amount of funds that may be provided to any eligible
614 association or entity from all grants under the program is Two
615 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

616 (c) Associations or entities that received funding
617 under the first round of grant awards for this program or received
618 funding in the Mississippi Municipality and County Water
619 Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 are ineligible to receive
620 funding under the second round.

621 (7) The department shall have all powers necessary to
622 implement and administer the program. Of the funds appropriated
623 to the department for the program, not more than five percent (5%)
624 may be used by the department to cover the department's costs of
625 administering the program.

626 (8) In carrying out its responsibilities under the program,
627 for any contract under the purview of the Public Procurement
628 Review Board (PPRB), the department shall be exempt from any
629 requirement that the PPRB approve any personal or professional
630 services contracts or pre-approve any solicitation of such
631 contracts. This subsection shall stand repealed on July 1, 2026.

632 (9) The department shall submit an annual report regarding
633 the program no later than December 31 of each year to the
634 Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Chairmen of
635 the Senate and House Appropriations Committees.

636 (10) For the purposes of this section, "entity" means:

637 (a) Any entity operating as a rural water association,
638 regardless of whether such entities were user created, were
639 initially organized not for profit, or have been granted
640 tax-exempt status under state or federal law.

641 (b) Any nonprofit water or sewer provider not owned by
642 the municipality or county and are not a Rural Water Association.

643 (c) Any entity eligible under this program shall be
644 currently operating as a not-for-profit entity.

645 (d) "Entity" under this subsection does not include any
646 state agency. No state agency shall be eligible under this
647 program.

648 **SECTION 10.** Section 41-9-371, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
649 brought forward as follows:

650 41-9-371. (1) There is established the Mississippi Hospital
651 Sustainability Grant Program which shall be administered by the
652 State Department of Health.

653 (2) In order to strengthen, improve and preserve access to
654 Mississippi hospital care services for all Mississippians and in
655 recognition of the challenges incurred by Mississippi hospitals as
656 a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, funds from the program shall be
657 distributed, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to each
658 hospital licensed by the State of Mississippi, except for
659 hospitals operated by the United States Department of Veterans
660 Affairs and hospitals operated by the State Department of Mental
661 Health. Licensed specialty hospitals that are recognized as such

662 by the State Department of Health, except for those excluded under
663 this subsection, are eligible for grants under the program.

664 (3) The department shall distribute grants to each eligible
665 hospital based upon the following formula:

666 (a) Each hospital that has fewer than one hundred (100)
667 licensed beds and that is not classified as a critical access
668 hospital that operates an emergency department shall be eligible
669 to receive Six Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$625,000.00)
670 to defray the costs of providing emergency department services.

671 (b) Each rural hospital that has fewer than one hundred
672 (100) licensed beds and that is classified as a critical access
673 hospital that operates an emergency department shall be eligible
674 to receive Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to defray
675 the costs of providing emergency department services.

676 (c) Each hospital that operates an emergency department
677 and that has more than one hundred (100) licensed beds shall be
678 eligible to receive One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

679 (d) Each hospital with fewer than two hundred (200)
680 licensed beds with the majority of such beds being dedicated to
681 providing specialty services such as women's health services,
682 long-term acute care, rehabilitation or psychiatric services shall
683 be eligible to receive Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
684 (\$500,000.00).

685 (e) Each rural hospital with fewer than one hundred
686 (100) licensed beds with no emergency department shall be eligible
687 to receive Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) to defray

688 the costs of providing access to hospital care in rural
689 communities.

690 (f) In addition to the funds provided in paragraphs (a)
691 through (e) of this subsection, each small rural hospital with
692 fifty (50) beds or less which operated an emergency department
693 shall be eligible to receive Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
694 (\$250,000.00) to defray the costs of providing access to hospital
695 care in rural communities.

696 (g) In addition to the funds distributed in paragraphs
697 (a) through (c) and (e) through (f) of this subsection, any
698 remaining funds appropriated for the purposes of this grant
699 program shall be distributed to hospitals receiving funds in
700 paragraphs (a) through (c) and (e) through (f) of this subsection
701 on a pro rata amount by dividing the total amount of the remaining
702 funds by the number of licensed beds attributable to all licensed
703 Mississippi hospitals except for licensed beds attributable to
704 hospitals described in paragraph (d) of this subsection and for
705 licensed beds attributable to hospitals operated by the United
706 States Department of Veterans Affairs and hospitals operated by
707 the State Department of Mental Health and determining a dollar
708 amount for each bed, and then multiplying that dollar amount by
709 the number of licensed beds of that hospital.

710 (4) The department shall adopt such reasonable rules as
711 necessary for the administration of the program, but shall not
712 place additional qualification requirements on hospitals other
713 than the minimum requirements in this section.

714 (5) The Mississippi Hospital Association shall form a work
715 group to review the delivery of hospital services in Mississippi
716 and shall make recommendations regarding the changes needed to
717 sustain access to hospital care to the Lieutenant Governor,
718 Speaker of the House, Chairmen of the House and Senate Public
719 Health Committees with copies to the Governor and the State Health
720 Officer.

721 **SECTION 11.** Section 49-2-131, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
722 brought forward as follows:

723 49-2-131. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
724 as the "Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure
725 Grant Program Act of 2022."

726 (2) There is hereby established within the Mississippi
727 Department of Environmental Quality the Mississippi Municipality
728 and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program under which
729 municipalities, counties and certain public utilities not
730 regulated by the Public Service Commission may apply until
731 February 1, 2023, for reimbursable grants to make necessary
732 investments in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to
733 be funded by the Legislature utilizing Coronavirus State Fiscal
734 Recovery Funds made available under the federal American Rescue
735 Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Such grants shall be made available to
736 municipalities and counties to be matched with the Coronavirus
737 Local Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded or to be awarded to them under
738 ARPA on a one-to-one matching basis. Coronavirus Local Fiscal
739 Recovery Funds that a county transfers to a municipality or that a

740 county or municipality transfers to a public utility not regulated
741 by the Public Service Commission are eligible on a one-to-one
742 matching basis. Municipalities that received less than One
743 Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in the total allocation of
744 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are eligible for a
745 two-to-one match only on the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery
746 Funds awarded or to be awarded to them under ARPA. The
747 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality shall only accept
748 two (2) rounds of submissions under the Mississippi Municipality
749 and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. The second
750 round of submissions shall be the final round. The dollar amount
751 for professional fees that can be allocated as a part of a
752 county's, municipality's or public utility's matching share is not
753 to exceed four percent (4%) of the total project cost.

754 (3) For purposes of this section, unless the context
755 requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings
756 ascribed herein:

757 (a) "MCWI Grant Program" means the Mississippi
758 Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program.

759 (b) "ARPA" means the federal American Rescue Plan Act
760 of 2021, Public Law 117-2, which amends Title VI of the Social
761 Security Act.

762 (c) "State Recovery Funds" means Coronavirus State
763 Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded through Section 602 of Title VI of
764 the Social Security Act amended by Section 9901 of the federal
765 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2.

766 (d) "Local Recovery Funds" means Coronavirus Local
767 Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded through Section 603 of Title VI of
768 the Social Security Act amended by Section 9901 of the federal
769 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2.

770 (e) "Department" means the Department of Environmental
771 Quality.

772 (f) "Professional fees" means fees for the services of
773 attorneys and engineering, surveying, and environmental studies.

774 (g) "Project" means the infrastructure improvements
775 defined in an application that (i) complies with all requirements
776 of ARPA, and (ii) is eligible for a grant award under this
777 section.

778 (4) (a) On or before July 1, 2022, the Department of
779 Environmental Quality shall promulgate rules and regulations
780 necessary to administer the MCWI Grant Program prescribed under
781 this section, including application procedures and deadlines. The
782 department is exempt from compliance with the Mississippi
783 Administrative Procedures Law in fulfilling the requirements of
784 this section.

785 (b) The Department of Health shall advise the
786 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality regarding all such
787 rules and regulations as related to the federal Safe Drinking
788 Water Act.

789 (5) Funding under the MCWI Grant Program shall be allocated
790 to projects certified by the Mississippi Department of

791 Environmental Quality as eligible for federal funding, including,
792 but not be limited to, the following:

793 (a) Construction of publicly owned treatment works;

794 (b) Projects pursuant to the implementation of a
795 nonpoint source pollution management program established under the
796 Clean Water Act (CWA);

797 (c) Decentralized wastewater treatment systems that
798 treat municipal wastewater or domestic sewage;

799 (d) Management and treatment of stormwater or
800 subsurface drainage water;

801 (e) Water conservation, efficiency, or reuse measures;

802 (f) Development and implementation of a conservation
803 and management plan under the CWA;

804 (g) Watershed projects meeting the criteria set forth
805 in the CWA;

806 (h) Energy consumption reduction for publicly owned
807 treatment works;

808 (i) Reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or
809 subsurface drainage water;

810 (j) Facilities to improve drinking water quality;

811 (k) Transmission and distribution, including
812 improvements of water pressure or prevention of contamination in
813 infrastructure and lead service line replacements;

814 (l) New sources to replace contaminated drinking water
815 or increase drought resilience, including aquifer storage and
816 recovery system for water storage;

817 (m) Storage of drinking water, such as to prevent
818 contaminants or equalize water demands;

819 (n) Purchase of water systems and interconnection of
820 systems;

821 (o) New community water systems;

822 (p) Culvert repair, resizing, and removal, replacement
823 of storm sewers, and additional types of stormwater
824 infrastructure;

825 (q) Dam and reservoir rehabilitation, if the primary
826 purpose of dam or reservoir is for drinking water supply and
827 project is necessary for the provision of drinking water;

828 (r) Broad set of lead remediation projects eligible
829 under EPA grant programs authorized by the Water Infrastructure
830 Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act; and

831 (s) Any eligible drinking water, wastewater or
832 stormwater project through ARPA guidelines, guidance, rules,
833 regulations and other criteria, as may be amended from time to
834 time, by the United States Department of the Treasury.

835 (6) The governing authority of a municipality, county or
836 public utility that is not regulated by the Public Service
837 Commission may submit an application for grant funds under this
838 section if the applicant is an operator-member of Mississippi 811,
839 Inc., as defined in Section 77-13-3. Applicants shall certify to
840 the department that each expenditure of the funds awarded to them
841 under this section is in compliance with ARPA guidelines,
842 guidance, rules, regulations and other criteria, as may be amended

843 from time to time, by the United States Department of the Treasury
844 regarding the use of monies from the State Coronavirus State
845 Fiscal Recovery Funds. Subsequent submissions will be due by the
846 dates established by the department.

847 (7) An application for a grant under this section shall be
848 submitted at such time, be in such form, and contain such
849 information as the department prescribes. Each application for
850 grant funds shall include the following at a minimum: (a)
851 applicant contact information; (b) project description and type of
852 project; (c) project map; (d) estimate of population affected by
853 the project; (e) disadvantaged community criteria (population,
854 median household income, unemployment, current water/sewer rates);
855 (f) estimated project cost; (g) list of match funds of direct
856 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received and to be
857 received from the federal government, a certification that such
858 funds have been or will be used for the project detailed in the
859 application, and documentation of commitment; (h) estimated
860 project schedule and readiness to proceed; (i) engineering
861 services agreement; (j) engineering reports; and (k) information
862 about status of obtaining any required permits.

863 (8) The department must apply a system for use in ranking
864 the grant applications received, unless the Legislature funds all
865 eligible grant requests under the program. When applying the
866 ranking system, the department shall apply a greater weight to
867 projects that have approved engineering/design, plans and permits
868 if the department has deemed the project is ready to begin

869 construction within six (6) months. Projects that are included on
870 the municipal or county engineer's approved list and provide
871 applicable supporting documentation shall receive additional
872 consideration awarded to the application. The ranking system
873 shall include the following factors, at a minimum: (a) the
874 environmental impact of the proposed project; (b) the proposed
875 project's ability to address noncompliance with state/federal
876 requirements; (c) the extent to which the project promotes
877 economic development; (d) the number of people served by the
878 project and the number of communities the project serves; (e)
879 impacts of the proposed project on disadvantaged/overburdened
880 communities; (f) the grant applicant's prior efforts to secure
881 funding to address the proposed project's objectives; (g) the
882 grant applicant's proposed contribution of other funds or in-kind
883 cost-sharing to the proposed project; (h) the grant applicant's
884 long-term plans for the financial and physical operation and
885 maintenance of the project; (i) the grant applicant's capacity to
886 initiate construction in a timely manner and complete the proposed
887 project by the deadline specified by the United States Department
888 of Treasury rules for ARPA funds; (j) the extent to which the
889 project benefits multiple political subdivisions in a regional
890 manner; (k) the project's ability to enhance public service
891 infrastructure, including transportation and emergency access; and
892 (l) any other factors as determined by the department.

893 (9) The grant program shall include a specific emphasis on
894 addressing the needs of an economically disadvantaged community,

895 including providing safe, reliable drinking water in areas that
896 lack infrastructure, providing sewage treatment capacity in
897 unsewered areas and providing regional development of
898 infrastructure to serve multiple communities.

899 (10) Applications shall be reviewed and scored as they are
900 received, unless the Legislature funds all eligible grant requests
901 under the program. The Mississippi Department of Environmental
902 Quality shall certify whether each project submitted is a
903 "necessary investment" in water, wastewater, or stormwater
904 infrastructure as defined in the American Rescue Plan Act and all
905 applicable guidance issued by the United States Department of the
906 Treasury. The Department of Environmental Quality shall review
907 the lists of recommended water infrastructure projects and issue
908 its list of recommended projects to the Mississippi Department of
909 Health for its advice. Grant agreements shall be executed between
910 the recipient and the Mississippi Department of Environmental
911 Quality. All final awards shall be determined at the discretion
912 of the executive director of the department. Any funds awarded to
913 the City of Jackson under this section shall be deposited in the
914 Capital City Water/Sewer Projects Fund of the State Treasury.
915 Funds shall be obligated to a grantee upon the execution of a
916 grant agreement between the department and the approved applicant.
917 Funds shall be made available to a grantee when the department
918 obtains the necessary support for reimbursement. The department
919 is authorized to conduct additional rounds of grants as needed;
920 however, in the first round no more than forty percent (40%) of

921 the total funds appropriated for each grant program may be awarded
922 by the department, and the remaining funds may be awarded in the
923 final round which shall occur no later than six (6) months from
924 the previous round. To ensure equitable treatment between the
925 categories of projects, no less than twenty percent (20%) awarded
926 under this section shall be allocated to each of the three (3)
927 categories of drinking water projects, wastewater projects and
928 stormwater projects. In the final round, any funds not requested
929 may be allocated to any category.

930 (11) Grant funds shall be used prospectively; however, grant
931 funds may be used to reimburse expenses incurred before the
932 enactment of this program if the costs are adequately documented
933 and comply with applicable ARPA guidelines. An applicant must
934 agree to obtain all necessary state and federal permits and follow
935 all state bidding and contracting laws and fiscally sound
936 practices in the administration of the funds.

937 (12) (a) Monies must be disbursed under this section in
938 compliance with the guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations or
939 other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, of the United
940 States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from
941 the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, established by the
942 American Rescue Plan of 2021.

943 (b) The use of funds allocated under this program shall
944 be subject to audit by the United States Department of the
945 Treasury's Office of Inspector General and the Mississippi Office
946 of the State Auditor. Each person receiving funds under these

947 programs found to be fully or partially noncompliant with the
948 requirements in this section shall return to the state all or a
949 portion of the funds received.

950 (13) The department shall submit to the Lieutenant Governor,
951 Speaker of the House, House and Senate Appropriations Chairmen,
952 and the Legislative Budget Office quarterly reports and annual
953 reports that are due by the dates established in the Compliance
954 and Reporting Guidance by the United States Department of
955 Treasury. The reports shall contain the applications received,
956 the score of the applications, the amount of grant funds awarded
957 to each applicant, the amount of grant funds expended by each
958 applicant, and status of each applicant's project. The score of
959 the applications is not required if the award was provided in the
960 final round of grants and the Legislature provided the total
961 amount of funds for all eligible grant requests.

962 (14) Grant funds shall be available under this section
963 through December 31, 2026, or on the date of the fund expenditure
964 deadline provided by the federal government, whichever occurs
965 later. Each grant recipient shall certify for any project for
966 which a grant is awarded that if the project is not completed by
967 December 31, 2026, and the United States Congress does not enact
968 an extension of the deadline on the availability of ARPA funds,
969 then the grant recipient will complete the project through other
970 funds.

971 (15) The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality may
972 retain an amount not to exceed five percent (5%) of the total
973 funds allocated to the program to defray administrative costs.

974 (16) The department shall be exempt from provisions of the
975 Public Procurement Review Board for any requirements of personal
976 or professional service contracts or the pre-approval of the
977 solicitation for such contracts used in the execution of its
978 responsibilities under this section. This subsection shall stand
979 repealed on January 1, 2026.

980 (17) The provisions of this section shall stand repealed on
981 January 1, 2027.

982 **SECTION 12.** (1) (a) The State Fiscal Officer shall
983 determine the amount of Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds
984 appropriated to various agencies that will not be obligated as of
985 November 1, 2024.

986 (b) In making the determination required by this
987 subsection, the State Fiscal Officer shall use the criteria
988 released by the United States Treasury to determine if the
989 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds are not obligated.

990 (2) If at any time during the period from passage of this
991 act to November 1, 2024, a state agency determines that
992 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds will not be obligated by
993 November 1, 2024, the state agency shall notify the State Fiscal
994 Officer.

995 (3) If at any time the State Fiscal Officer determines that
996 funds will be unobligated as of November 1, 2024, under subsection

997 (1) or (2) of this section, the State Treasurer, in coordination
998 with the State Fiscal Officer, shall transfer these funds to the
999 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No. 682111300) by no
1000 later than November 5, 2024. No later than November 6, 2024, the
1001 State Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal Officer,
1002 shall transfer the funds to the following funds:

1003 A state agency that has authority to spend appropriated funds
1004 in any fund listed above may escalate its budget and expend the
1005 funds received under this section in accordance with rules and
1006 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a
1007 manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

1008 **SECTION 13.** Upon the effective date of this act, the State
1009 Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal Officer, shall
1010 transfer to the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No.
1011 6821113000) from the following named funds the following sums:

1012	FUND	FUND NUMBER	AMOUNT
1013	Mississippi Municipal		
1014	and County Water		
1015	Infrastructure Fund	6822147000	\$ 28,557,785.00
1016	Mississippi Hospital		
1017	Sustainability		
1018	Grant Program Fund	6822130500	\$ 6,850,000.00
1019	MDCPS American Rescue		
1020	Plan Act Fund	6822166100	\$ 15,607,348.00
1021	Trial Judges-ARPA 2021-		
1022	(CPS) Fund	6822105100	\$ 1,500,000.00

1023	MH SB Corona State Fiscal		
1024	Rec Funds ARPA Fund	6822437100	\$ 29,384,500.00
1025	MH CO Corona State Fiscal		
1026	Rec Funds ARPA Fund	6822337100	\$ 18,250,000.00
1027	Trial Judges-ARPA 2021-		
1028	Temporary Courts Fund	6822105200	\$ 1,589,094.00
1029	Mississippi Law Enforcement		
1030	and Fire Fighters		
1031	Premium Pay Fund	6822171100	\$ 3,448,580.00
1032	TOTAL		\$105,187,307.00

1033 **SECTION 14.** Upon the effective date of this act, the State
1034 Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal Officer, shall
1035 transfer the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) from the Coronavirus State
1036 Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No. 6821113000) to the Coronavirus
1037 State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund (Fund No. 3822113000).

1038 **SECTION 15.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
1039 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-104-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND,
3 FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION
4 27-104-323, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO DIRECT THE STATE FISCAL
5 OFFICER TO TRANSFER TO THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND
6 THE FULL AMOUNT OF ANY INTEREST EARNED ON AMOUNTS IN THE
7 CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND THAT ARE REMAINING IN THE
8 LOCAL FUND ON JULY 1, 2024; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY INTEREST EARNED ON
9 AMOUNTS IN THE CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND AFTER JULY
10 1, 2024, SHALL BE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF THE CORONAVIRUS STATE
11 FISCAL RECOVERY FUND; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER TO
12 TRANSFER TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANY FUNDS IN THE CORONAVIRUS

13 LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND THAT HAVE NOT BEEN USED FOR THE PURPOSE
14 FOR WHICH THEY WERE RECEIVED; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-104-325,
15 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE CORONAVIRUS STATE
16 FISCAL RECOVERY LOST REVENUE FUND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE
17 AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-57, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
18 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE
19 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
20 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-205, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
21 ESTABLISHED THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI NURSING/ALLIED HEALTH GRANT
22 PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD
23 SECTION 37-153-207, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHED
24 THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI PHYSICIAN RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP
25 START-UP GRANT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
26 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-209, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
27 ESTABLISHED THE MISSISSIPPI ALLIED HEALTH COLLEGE AND CAREER
28 NAVIGATOR GRANT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
29 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-106-64, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
30 ESTABLISHED THE SKILLED NURSING HOME AND HOSPITAL NURSES RETENTION
31 LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
32 AMEND SECTION 41-3-16.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT
33 FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF GRANT AWARDS UNDER THE ARPA RURAL WATER
34 ASSOCIATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
35 HEALTH SHALL ADD TEN POINTS TO ANY GRANT APPLICATION THAT PROMOTES
36 THE CONSOLIDATION OF SEPARATE SYSTEMS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE
37 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADD TEN POINTS TO ANY APPLICATION WITH AT LEAST
38 ONE SYSTEM THAT HAS CONSOLIDATED IN THE PAST, REGARDLESS OF
39 WHETHER THE APPLICATION WOULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL CONSOLIDATION
40 IN THE FUTURE; TO PROVIDE THAT NO APPLICATION WILL RECEIVE MORE
41 THAN A TOTAL OF TEN ADDITIONAL POINTS UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR ANY
42 PAST OR FUTURE CONSOLIDATION OF SYSTEMS; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION
43 41-9-371, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE MISSISSIPPI
44 HOSPITAL SUSTAINABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE
45 AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 49-2-131, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
46 1972, WHICH CREATED THE MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER
47 INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE
48 AMENDMENT; TO REQUIRE THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER TO DETERMINE THE
49 AMOUNT OF CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO
50 VARIOUS AGENCIES THAT WILL NOT BE OBLIGATED AS OF NOVEMBER 1,
51 2024; TO REQUIRE THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER TO TRANSFER THE FUNDS
52 THAT ARE NOT OBLIGATED BY NOVEMBER 6, 2024, TO CERTAIN FUNDS; TO
53 DIRECT THE STATE TREASURER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE FISCAL
54 OFFICER, TO TRANSFER CERTAIN SUMS TO THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL
55 RECOVERY FUND FROM CERTAIN FUNDS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFER OF
56 CERTAIN FUNDS BY THE STATE TREASURER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR31\SB2848A.J

Andrew Ketchings
Clerk of the House of Representatives