Adopted COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO

Senate Bill No. 3070

BY: Committee

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

34 <u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) As used in this section, the following words 35 and phrases shall have the meanings as defined in this subsection 36 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "Applicable percentage" means sixteen percent (16%)
for each of the first through third credit allowance dates for
purposes of the taxes imposed by Section 27-7-5 or the taxes
imposed by Sections 27-15-103, 27-15-109 and 27-15-123.

41 (b) "CDFI fund" means the Community Development
42 Financial Institutions fund of the United States Department of the
43 Treasury.

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(c) "Credit allowance date" means, with respect to any qualified equity investment: (i) the date on which the qualified equity investment is initially made; and (ii) each of the subsequent two (2) anniversary dates of the date the qualified equity investment was initially made.

(d) "MDA" means the Mississippi Development Authority.
(e) "Mississippi qualified community development
entity" means a qualified community development entity that is or
whose controlling entity is headquartered in the State of
Mississippi.

"Principal business operations" means the physical 54 (f) 55 location where at least sixty percent (60%) of a qualified active 56 low-income community business' employees work. An entity that has 57 agreed to relocate employees or a Mississippi business that has 58 agreed to hire employees using the proceeds of a qualified 59 low-income community investment to establish principal business 60 operations in Mississippi is deemed to have principal business operations in Mississippi if the entity satisfies the requirements 61 62 of this paragraph within one hundred eighty (180) days of 63 receiving the qualified low-income community investment or another 64 date as agreed by the business and the MDA.

(g) "Purchase price" means the amount paid to the
qualified community development entity for a qualified equity
investment.

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68 (h) "Qualified active low-income community business" 69 shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 45D of the 70 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, provided such entity 71 has its principal business operations within the state's 72 geographical boundary. An entity is deemed a qualified active 73 low-income community business for the duration of a qualified 74 low-income community investment if the qualified community 75 development entity reasonably expects, at the time it makes the 76 qualified low-income community investment, that the entity will 77 continue to satisfy the requirements for being a qualified active 78 low-income community business throughout the entire period of the 79 qualified low-income community investment.

80 (i) "Qualified community development entity" shall have
81 the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 45D of the Internal
82 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, provided that:

(i) The entity, or an affiliate thereof, has
previously entered into an allocation agreement with the CDFI fund
with respect to credits authorized by Section 45D of the Internal
Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

87 (ii) Such allocation agreement includes the State
88 of Mississippi within the service area set forth in the allocation
89 agreement; and

90 (iii) Except for Mississippi qualified community91 development entities, the entity, together with affiliates:

92 1. Has made qualified low-income community 93 investments under Section 57-105-1 et seq. of at least Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00) in Mississippi qualified active 94 low-income community businesses; 95 96 2. Has made at least One Hundred Million 97 Dollars (\$100,000,000) of investments in businesses located in 98 Mississippi; or 99 3. Has received at least four (4) original 100 tax credit certificates from the MDA. (j) "Qualified equity investment" means an equity 101 102 investment in a qualified community development entity, if the 103 equity investment: 104 (i) Is acquired after the effective date of this 105 act at its original issuance solely in exchange for cash, and if not so acquired, was a qualified equity investment in the hands of 106 107 a prior holder; 108 Has at least eighty-five percent (85%) of its (ii) cash purchase price used by the qualified community development 109 110 entity to make qualified low-income community investments in 111 qualified active low-income community businesses that have their 112 principal business operations in the State of Mississippi; and 113 (iii) Is: 114 1. Designated by the qualified community 115 development entity as a qualified equity investment under this section; and 116

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117 2. Is at least fifty percent (50%) designated 118 by the qualified community development entity as a qualified 119 equity investment under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code 120 of 1986, as amended.

121 (k) "Qualified low-income community investment" shall 122 have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 45D of the 123 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; provided, however, that 124 the maximum amount of qualified low-income community investments 125 issued for a single qualified active low-income community business, on an aggregate basis with all of its affiliates, that 126 127 may be included for purposes of complying with subsection 128 (4) (d) (iii) of this section shall not exceed Ten Million Dollars 129 (\$10,000,000.00), in the aggregate, whether issued by one (1) or 130 several qualified community development entities and exclusive of repaid or redeemed qualified low-income community investments in 131 132 such business.

133 A person or entity that holds a qualified equity (2)investment on the credit allowance date shall be entitled to a 134 135 credit applicable against the taxes imposed by Sections 27-7-5, 136 27-15-103, 27-15-109 and 27-15-123 during the taxable year that 137 includes the credit allowance date. The amount of the credit 138 shall be equal to the applicable percentage for such taxable year 139 of the purchase price paid to the qualified community development 140 entity for the qualified equity investment. The amount of the credit that may be utilized in any one (1) tax year shall be 141

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142 limited to an amount not greater than the total tax liability of 143 the claimant for the taxes imposed by the above-referenced The credit shall not be refundable or transferable. 144 sections. Any unused portion of the credit may be carried forward for seven 145 146 (7) taxable years beyond the credit allowance date on which the 147 credit was earned. The maximum aggregate amount of qualified equity investments that may be allocated by the MDA may not exceed 148 149 an amount that would result in taxpayers claiming in any one (1) 150 state fiscal year credits in excess of Twenty Million Dollars 151 (\$20,000,000.00), exclusive of credits that might be carried 152 forward from previous taxable years; however, a maximum of 153 Eighteen Million Dollars (\$18,000,000.00) with respect to such 154 allocations may be allocated as credits for taxes imposed by 155 Sections 27-15-103, 27-15-109 and 27-15-123. Any person or entity 156 claiming a credit under this section against the taxes imposed by Sections 27-7-5, 27-15-103, 27-15-109 and 27-15-123 shall not be 157 158 required to pay any additional tax under Section 27-15-123 as a 159 result of claiming such credit. The MDA shall allocate credits within this limit as provided for in subsection (4) of this 160 161 section.

162 (3) Tax credits authorized by this section that are earned 163 by a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation or 164 other similar pass-through entity, shall be allocated among its 165 partners, members or shareholders, respectively, either in 166 proportion to their ownership interest in such entity or as the

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167 partners, members or shareholders mutually agree as provided in an 168 executed document. Such allocation shall be made each taxable 169 year of such pass-through entity which contains a credit allowance 170 date. An allocation or pass-through of a credit is not considered 171 a sale for the purposes of this section or any other state law. 172 (4) (a) For three (3) consecutive fiscal years beginning July 1, 2024, qualified community development entities shall apply 173 to the MDA for an award of credits and related qualified equity 174 175 investment authority on a form provided by the MDA that includes: 176 The name, address, and tax identification (i) 177 number of the applicant, and evidence of the applicant's 178 certification as a qualified community development entity by the 179 CDFI fund; 180 (ii) A copy of the allocation agreement executed 181 by the applicant or its controlling entity, and the CDFI fund; 182 (iii) A certificate executed by an executive 183 officer of the applicant attesting that the allocation agreement 184 remains in effect and has not been revoked or canceled by the CDFI 185 fund; 186 (iv) A description of the proposed amount, 187 structure, and purchaser of the equity investment; 188 The amount of qualified equity investment (v) 189 authority sought which collectively may not exceed the applicant 190 or its controlling entity's available qualified equity investment

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191 authority under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 192 as amended multiplied by two (2);

(vi) Evidence of the applicant or its controlling entity's available qualified equity investment authority under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

196 (vii) A nonrefundable application fee of One
197 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00);

(viii) Except for Mississippi qualified community development entities, evidence that the applicant, on a collective basis with its affiliates, satisfies at least one (1) of the requirements of subsection (1)(i)(iii) of this section for the definition of qualified community development entity; and

203 (ix) Other information as required by the MDA204 pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subsection.

205 (b) The MDA shall set a date to accept applications not 206 less than thirty (30) days but not more than forty-five (45) days 207 after the CDFI fund announces allocation awards under a notice of 208 funding availability that was published in the Federal Register. 209 In the event that the CDFI fund is unable to publish a notice of 210 funding of allocation awards because of a lack of award authority 211 under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as 212 amended, with respect to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, 213 the MDA shall set a date for accepting applications and waive the 214 requirement that a qualified community development entity designate at least fifty percent (50%) of qualified equity 215

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216 investment authority awarded as a qualified equity investment 217 under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as 218 amended, provided that the MDA shall give a preference in the 219 award of tax credits to qualified community development entities 220 that apply with remaining allocation under Section 45D of the 221 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

222 The MDA shall award credits and the related (C)223 qualified equity investment authority, subject to the limitations 224 set forth in subsection (2) of this section, fifty percent (50%) 225 to applicants that agree to utilize qualified equity investment 226 authority for loan funds. The MDA may require additional 227 information in the application to delineate between types of 228 applications. Within forty-five (45) days with respect to a loan 229 fund application and ninety (90) days for all other applications, 230 the MDA shall grant or deny the application in full or in part. 231 If the MDA denies any part of the application, the MDA shall 232 inform the applicant of the grounds for the denial. If the 233 applicant provides the information required by the MDA or 234 otherwise completes its application within fifteen (15) days of 235 the notice of denial, the application is deemed complete as of the original date of submission. If the applicant fails to provide 236 237 the requested information or complete its application within the 238 fifteen-day period, the applicant must submit a new application. 239 If requests for either allocation are not fully subscribed, the 240 MDA shall reallocate such remaining allocation to the other

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241 allocation pool. Once the MDA has allocated credits to a 242 qualified community development entity, the corresponding 243 qualified equity investment must be issued and, if applicable, 244 fifty percent (50%) of such qualified equity investment must be 245 designated under Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 246 as amended, not later than one hundred twenty (120) days from the 247 date of such allocation. If the qualified equity investment is 248 not issued and, if applicable, such designation under Section 45D 249 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, is not made 250 within such time period, the allocation shall be cancelled and 251 returned to the MDA for reallocation. If the actual dollar amount 252 of qualified equity investment is lower than the amount awarded by 253 the MDA, the MDA shall adjust the tax credit allowed under this 254 section and reissue awards to other applicants that did not 255 receive the awards requested pro rata. Qualified community 256 development entities shall provide the MDA evidence of qualified 257 equity investments and designation under Section 45D of the 258 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, if applicable, within 259 one hundred thirty (130) days from the date of an allocation. An 260 applicant certified an award under this paragraph may transfer all 261 or a portion of its certified qualified equity investment 262 authority to any affiliated qualified community development entity 263 by sending written notice to the MDA endorsing the certificate. 264 The Department of Revenue may recapture credits (d)

265 under this section if:

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(i) Any amount of the federal tax credit available
with respect to a qualified equity investment that is eligible for
a credit under this section is recaptured under Section 45D of the
Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

(ii) The qualified community development entity
redeems a qualified equity investment prior to the seventh
anniversary of the issuance of the qualified equity investment; or

273 (iii) The qualified community development entity 274 fails to invest at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the cash purchase price of the qualified equity investment in qualified 275 276 low-income community investments within twelve (12) months of the 277 issuance of the qualified equity investment and maintain that 278 level of investment until the seventh anniversary of the initial 279 credit allowance date for the qualified equity investment. 280 A qualified community development entity shall notify the 281 Department of Revenue of any of the events set forth in this 282 paragraph (d) within five (5) days of actual knowledge of such 283 event.

(e) For purposes of paragraph (d)(iii) of this subsection, an investment is considered maintained by a qualified community development entity even if the investment has been sold or repaid, provided that the qualified community development entity reinvests an amount equal to the capital returned to or recovered by the qualified community development entity from the original investment, exclusive of any profits realized, in another

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291 qualified low-income community investment in this state within 292 twelve (12) months after the receipt of that capital. Periodic 293 loan repayments received by a qualified community development 294 entity from a qualified active low-income community business 295 within a calendar year must be treated as maintained in qualified 296 low-income community investments if a qualified community 297 development entity reinvests the repayments in qualified 298 low-income community investments by the end of the following 299 calendar year.

300 A qualified community development entity is not (f) 301 required to reinvest capital returned from qualified low-income 302 community investments after the sixth anniversary of the issuance of the qualified equity investment, the proceeds of which were 303 304 used to make the qualified low-income community investment, and 305 the qualified low-income community investment is considered held 306 by the qualified community development entity through the seventh 307 anniversary of the qualified equity investment's issuance.

308 The MDA shall provide notice to the qualified (a) 309 community development entity and the Department of Revenue of any 310 proposed recapture of credits pursuant to this subsection. The 311 notice must specify the conditions under which the deficiency 312 resulting in the proposed recapture occurred and state that the 313 credits will be recaptured within ninety (90) days unless the 314 qualified community development entity complies with the conditions identified in the notice. If the entity does not 315

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316 comply with the conditions identified in the notice within the 317 ninety-day period, the Department of Revenue shall provide the 318 entity from whom the credit is to be recaptured with a final order 319 of recapture. Any credit for which a final recapture order has 320 been issued must be recaptured by the Department of Revenue from 321 the entity who claimed the credit on a tax return. The qualified 322 equity investment authority of the recaptured credits must be 323 returned to the MDA and must first be awarded pro rata to 324 applicants that have received awards of qualified equity 325 investment authority and complied with this subsection. If 326 credits are recaptured under this section, any remaining credit is 327 forfeited.

328 (h) The MDA shall not make awards of credits and329 related qualified equity investment authority after July 1, 2027.

330 Each qualified community development entity that (5)331 receives qualified equity investments to make qualified low-income 332 community investments in Mississippi must annually report to the 333 MDA the North American Industry Classification System Code, the 334 county, the dollars invested, the number of jobs assisted and the 335 number of jobs assisted with wages over one hundred percent (100%) 336 of the federal poverty level for a family of four (4) of each 337 qualified low-income community investment.

(6) The MDA shall file an annual report on all qualified
 low-income community investments with the Governor, the Clerk of
 the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Senate and the

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341 Secretary of State describing the North American Industry 342 Classification System Code, the county, the dollars invested, the 343 number of jobs assisted and the number of jobs assisted with wages 344 over one hundred percent (100%) of the federal poverty level for a 345 family of four (4) of each qualified low-income community 346 investment. The annual report will be posted on the MDA Internet 347 website.

(7) (a) The purpose of this subsection is to authorize the
 creation and establishment of public benefit corporations for
 financing arrangements regarding public property and facilities.

351

(b) As used in this subsection:

(i) "New Markets Tax Credit transaction" means any
financing transaction which utilizes either this section or
Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(ii) "Public benefit corporation" means a nonprofit corporation formed or designated by a public entity to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

"Public entity or public entities" includes 358 (iii) 359 utility districts, regional solid waste authorities, regional 360 utility authorities, community hospitals, regional airport 361 authorities, municipal airport authorities, community and junior 362 colleges, educational building corporations established by or on 363 behalf of the state institutions of higher learning, school 364 districts, planning and development districts, county economic development districts, urban renewal agencies, any other regional 365

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366 or local economic development authority, agency or governmental 367 entity, and any other regional or local industrial development 368 authority, agency or governmental entity.

(iv) "Public property or facilities" means any property or facilities owned or leased by a public entity or public benefit corporation.

372 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the (C) 373 contrary, public entities are authorized pursuant to this 374 subsection to create one or more public benefit corporations or designate an existing corporation as a public benefit corporation 375 376 for the purpose of entering into financing agreements and engaging 377 in New Markets Tax Credit transactions, which shall include, 378 without limitation, arrangements to plan, acquire, renovate, 379 construct, lease, sublease, manage, operate and/or improve new or 380 existing public property or facilities located within the 381 boundaries or service area of the public entity. Any financing 382 arrangement authorized under this subsection shall further any purpose of the public entity and may include a term of up to fifty 383 384 (50) years.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary and in order to facilitate the acquisition, renovation, construction, leasing, subleasing, management, operating and/or improvement of new or existing public property or facilities to further any purpose of a public entity, public entities are authorized to enter into financing arrangements in order to

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391 transfer public property or facilities to and/or from public 392 benefit corporations, including, without limitation, sales, 393 sale-leasebacks, leases and lease-leasebacks, provided such 394 transfer is related to any New Markets Tax Credit transaction 395 furthering any purpose of the public entity. Any such transfer 396 under this paragraph (d) and the public property or facilities 397 transferred in connection therewith shall be exempted from any 398 limitation or requirements with respect to leasing, acquiring, 399 and/or constructing public property or facilities.

400 With respect to a New Markets Tax Credit (e) 401 transaction, public entities and public benefit corporations are 402 authorized to enter into financing arrangements with any 403 governmental, nonprofit or for-profit entity in order to leverage 404 funds not otherwise available to public entities for the 405 acquisition, construction and/or renovation of properties 406 transferred to such public benefit corporations. The use of any 407 funds loaned by or contributed by a public benefit corporation or 408 borrowed by or otherwise made available to a public benefit 409 corporation in such financing arrangement shall be dedicated 410 solely to (i) the development of new properties or facilities 411 and/or the renovation of existing properties or facilities or 412 operation of properties or facilities, and/or (ii) the payment of 413 costs and expenditures related to any such financing arrangements, 414 including, but not limited to, funding any reserves required in connection therewith, the repayment of any indebtedness incurred 415

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416 in connection therewith, and the payment of fees and expenses 417 incurred in connection with the closing, administration, 418 accounting and/or compliance with respect to the New Markets Tax 419 Credit transaction.

(f) A public benefit corporation created pursuant to this subsection shall not be a political subdivision of the state but shall be a nonprofit corporation organized and governed under the provisions of the laws of this state and shall be a special purpose corporation established to facilitate New Markets Tax Credit transactions consistent with the requirements of this section.

427 Neither this subsection nor anything herein (q) 428 contained is or shall be construed as a restriction or limitation 429 upon any powers which the public entity or public benefit 430 corporation might otherwise have under any laws of this state, and 431 this subsection is cumulative to any such powers. This subsection 432 does and shall be construed to provide a complete additional and 433 alternative method for the doing of the things authorized thereby 434 and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers 435 conferred by other laws.

436 (8) The MDA shall promulgate rules and regulations to437 implement the provisions of this section.

438 SECTION 2. Section 27-15-129, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 439 amended as follows:

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440	27-15-129. (1) The amount of premium tax payable pursuant
441	to Sections 27-15-103, 27-15-109, 27-15-119 and 83-31-45,
442	Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be reduced from the amount
443	otherwise fixed in such sections if the payer files a sworn
444	statement with the required annual report showing as of the
445	beginning of the reporting period that at least the following
446	amounts of the total admitted assets of the payer were invested
447	and maintained in qualifying Mississippi investments as
448	hereinafter defined in subsection (2) of this section over the
449	period covered by such report:
450	Percentage of Total Admitted Percentage of Premium
451	Assets in Qualifying Tax Payable
452	Mississippi Investments
453	1% 99%
454	2% 98%
455	3% 97%
456	4% 96%
457	5% 95%
458	6% 94%
459	7% 93%
460	8% 92%
461	9% 91%
462	10% 80%
463	15% 70%
464	20% 60%

25% 50% 465 466 For the purpose of this section, "a qualifying (2) 467 Mississippi investment" is hereby defined as follows: 468 Certificates of deposit issued by any bank or (a) 469 savings and loan association domiciled in this state; 470 (b) Bonds of this state or bonds of municipal, school, 471 road or levee districts, or other political subdivisions of this 472 state; 473 Loans evidenced by notes and secured by deeds of (C) 474 trust on property located in this state; 475 (d) Real property located in this state; 476 Policy loans to residents of Mississippi, or other (e) loans to residents of this state, or to corporations domiciled in 477 478 this state; 479 Common or preferred stock, bonds and other (f) 480 evidences of indebtedness of corporations domiciled in this state; 481 and 482 Cash on deposit in any bank or savings and loan (q) 483 association domiciled in this state. 484 "A qualifying Mississippi investment" shall not include any 485 investment for which a credit is allocated under Section 57-105-1 * * *, Section 57-115-1 et seq., and/or Section 1 of this 486 487 act. 488 If the credits, or any part thereof, authorized by the (3) preceding provisions of this section shall be held by a court of 489

24/HR31/SB3070A.2J PAGE 19 (BS/JAB) 490 final jurisdiction to be unconstitutional and void for any reason 491 or to make the annual premium taxes levied by Sections 27-15-103, 492 27-15-109, 27-15-119 and 83-31-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, 493 unlawfully discriminatory or otherwise invalid under the 494 Fourteenth Amendment or the Commerce Clause of the Constitution of 495 the United States or under any state or other federal 496 constitutional provisions, it is hereby expressly declared that 497 such fact shall in no way affect the validity of the annual 498 premium taxes levied thereby, and that such provisions would have 499 been enacted even though the Legislature had known this credit 500 section would be held invalid.

501 (4) This section shall apply to taxes accruing and 502 investments existing from and after July 1, 1985.

503 **SECTION 3.** Section 31-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 504 amended as follows:

505 31-7-13. All agencies and governing authorities shall 506 purchase their commodities and printing; contract for garbage 507 collection or disposal; contract for solid waste collection or 508 disposal; contract for sewage collection or disposal; contract for 509 public construction; and contract for rentals as herein provided.

(a) Bidding procedure for purchases not over \$5,000.00.
Purchases which do not involve an expenditure of more than Five
Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), exclusive of freight or shipping
charges, may be made without advertising or otherwise requesting
competitive bids. However, nothing contained in this paragraph

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(a) shall be construed to prohibit any agency or governing
authority from establishing procedures which require competitive
bids on purchases of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or less.

518 Bidding procedure for purchases over \$5,000.00 but (b) 519 not over \$75,000.00. Purchases which involve an expenditure of 520 more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) but not more than 521 Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), exclusive of freight and shipping charges, may be made from the lowest and best bidder 522 523 without publishing or posting advertisement for bids, provided at least two (2) competitive written bids have been obtained. 524 Any 525 state agency or community or junior college purchasing commodities 526 or procuring construction pursuant to this paragraph (b) may authorize its purchasing agent, or his designee, to accept the 527 528 lowest competitive written bid under Seventy-five Thousand Dollars 529 (\$75,000.00). Any governing authority purchasing commodities 530 pursuant to this paragraph (b) may authorize its purchasing agent, 531 or his designee, with regard to governing authorities other than 532 counties, or its purchase clerk, or his designee, with regard to 533 counties, to accept the lowest and best competitive written bid. 534 Such authorization shall be made in writing by the governing 535 authority and shall be maintained on file in the primary office of 536 the agency and recorded in the official minutes of the governing 537 authority, as appropriate. The purchasing agent or the purchase 538 clerk, or his designee, as the case may be, and not the governing authority, shall be liable for any penalties and/or damages as may 539

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540 be imposed by law for any act or omission of the purchasing agent 541 or purchase clerk, or his designee, constituting a violation of 542 law in accepting any bid without approval by the governing authority. The term "competitive written bid" shall mean a bid 543 544 submitted on a bid form furnished by the buying agency or 545 governing authority and signed by authorized personnel 546 representing the vendor, or a bid submitted on a vendor's 547 letterhead or identifiable bid form and signed by authorized 548 personnel representing the vendor. "Competitive" shall mean that 549 the bids are developed based upon comparable identification of the 550 needs and are developed independently and without knowledge of 551 other bids or prospective bids. Any bid item for construction in excess of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) shall be broken down 552 553 by components to provide detail of component description and These details shall be submitted with the written bids 554 pricing. 555 and become part of the bid evaluation criteria. Bids may be 556 submitted by facsimile, electronic mail or other generally 557 accepted method of information distribution. Bids submitted by 558 electronic transmission shall not require the signature of the 559 vendor's representative unless required by agencies or governing 560 authorities.

- 561
- 562
- (C) Bidding procedure for purchases over \$75,000.00.

(i) **Publication requirement.**

563 1. Purchases which involve an expenditure of 564 more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), exclusive of

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565 freight and shipping charges, may be made from the lowest and best 566 bidder after advertising for competitive bids once each week for 567 two (2) consecutive weeks in a regular newspaper published in the 568 county or municipality in which such agency or governing authority 569 is located. However, all American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 570 projects in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) 571 shall be bid. All references to American Recovery and 572 Reinvestment Act projects in this section shall not apply to 573 programs identified in Division B of the American Recovery and 574 Reinvestment Act.

575 2. Reverse auctions shall be the primary 576 method for receiving bids during the bidding process. If a 577 purchasing entity determines that a reverse auction is not in the 578 best interest of the state, then that determination must be 579 approved by the Public Procurement Review Board. The purchasing 580 entity shall submit a detailed explanation of why a reverse 581 auction would not be in the best interest of the state and present 582 an alternative process to be approved by the Public Procurement 583 Review Board. If the Public Procurement Review Board authorizes 584 the purchasing entity to solicit bids with a method other than 585 reverse auction, then the purchasing entity may designate the 586 other methods by which the bids will be received, including, but 587 not limited to, bids sealed in an envelope, bids received 588 electronically in a secure system, or bids received by any other method that promotes open competition and has been approved by the 589

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590 Office of Purchasing and Travel. However, reverse auction shall 591 not be used for any public contract for design, construction, 592 improvement, repair or remodeling of any public facilities, 593 including the purchase of materials, supplies, equipment or goods 594 for same and including buildings, roads and bridges. The Public 595 Procurement Review Board must approve any contract entered into by 596 alternative process. The provisions of this item 2 shall not 597 apply to the individual state institutions of higher learning. 598 The provisions of this item 2 requiring reverse auction as the primary method of receiving bids shall not apply to term contract 599 600 purchases as provided in paragraph (n) of this section; however, a 601 purchasing entity may, in its discretion, utilize reverse auction for such purchases. The provisions of this item 2 shall not apply 602 603 to individual public schools, including public charter schools and 604 public school districts, only when purchasing copyrighted 605 educational supplemental materials and software as a service 606 product. For such purchases, a local school board may authorize a 607 purchasing entity in its jurisdiction to use a Request for 608 Qualifications which promotes open competition and meets the 609 requirements of the Office of Purchasing and Travel.

3. The date as published for the bid opening shall not be less than seven (7) working days after the last published notice; however, if the purchase involves a construction project in which the estimated cost is in excess of Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), such bids shall not be opened in

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615 less than fifteen (15) working days after the last notice is 616 published and the notice for the purchase of such construction 617 shall be published once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks. 618 However, all American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects in 619 excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be bid. 620 For any projects in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars 621 (\$25,000.00) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 622 publication shall be made one (1) time and the bid opening for 623 construction projects shall not be less than ten (10) working days after the date of the published notice. The notice of intention 624 625 to let contracts or purchase equipment shall state the time and place at which bids shall be received, list the contracts to be 626 627 made or types of equipment or supplies to be purchased, and, if 628 all plans and/or specifications are not published, refer to the 629 plans and/or specifications on file. If there is no newspaper published in the county or municipality, then such notice shall be 630 631 given by posting same at the courthouse, or for municipalities at 632 the city hall, and at two (2) other public places in the county or 633 municipality, and also by publication once each week for two (2) 634 consecutive weeks in some newspaper having a general circulation 635 in the county or municipality in the above-provided manner. On 636 the same date that the notice is submitted to the newspaper for 637 publication, the agency or governing authority involved shall mail 638 written notice to, or provide electronic notification to the main office of the Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program 639

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640 under the Mississippi Development Authority that contains the same 641 information as that in the published notice. Submissions received 642 by the Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program for 643 projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 644 shall be displayed on a separate and unique Internet web page 645 accessible to the public and maintained by the Mississippi 646 Development Authority for the Mississippi Procurement Technical 647 Assistance Program. Those American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 648 related submissions shall be publicly posted within twenty-four 649 (24) hours of receipt by the Mississippi Development Authority and 650 the bid opening shall not occur until the submission has been 651 posted for ten (10) consecutive days. The Department of Finance 652 and Administration shall maintain information regarding contracts 653 and other expenditures from the American Recovery and Reinvestment 654 Act, on a unique Internet web page accessible to the public. The 655 Department of Finance and Administration shall promulgate rules 656 regarding format, content and deadlines, unless otherwise 657 specified by law, of the posting of award notices, contract 658 execution and subsequent amendments, links to the contract 659 documents, expenditures against the awarded contracts and general 660 expenditures of funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment 661 Within one (1) working day of the contract award, the agency Act. 662 or governing authority shall post to the designated web page 663 maintained by the Department of Finance and Administration, notice 664 of the award, including the award recipient, the contract amount,

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665 and a brief summary of the contract in accordance with rules 666 promulgated by the department. Within one (1) working day of the 667 contract execution, the agency or governing authority shall post 668 to the designated web page maintained by the Department of Finance 669 and Administration a summary of the executed contract and make a 670 copy of the appropriately redacted contract documents available 671 for linking to the designated web page in accordance with the 672 rules promulgated by the department. The information provided by 673 the agency or governing authority shall be posted to the web page 674 for the duration of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 675 funding or until the project is completed, whichever is longer.

676 Bidding process amendment procedure. (ii) If all 677 plans and/or specifications are published in the notification, 678 then the plans and/or specifications may not be amended. If all 679 plans and/or specifications are not published in the notification, 680 then amendments to the plans/specifications, bid opening date, bid 681 opening time and place may be made, provided that the agency or 682 governing authority maintains a list of all prospective bidders 683 who are known to have received a copy of the bid documents and all 684 such prospective bidders are sent copies of all amendments. This 685 notification of amendments may be made via mail, facsimile, 686 electronic mail or other generally accepted method of information 687 distribution. No addendum to bid specifications may be issued 688 within two (2) working days of the time established for the 689 receipt of bids unless such addendum also amends the bid opening

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690 to a date not less than five (5) working days after the date of 691 the addendum.

692 Filing requirement. In all cases involving (iii) 693 governing authorities, before the notice shall be published or 694 posted, the plans or specifications for the construction or 695 equipment being sought shall be filed with the clerk of the board 696 of the governing authority. In addition to these requirements, a bid file shall be established which shall indicate those vendors 697 698 to whom such solicitations and specifications were issued, and 699 such file shall also contain such information as is pertinent to 700 the bid.

701

(iv) Specification restrictions.

702 1. Specifications pertinent to such bidding 703 shall be written so as not to exclude comparable equipment of 704 domestic manufacture. However, if valid justification is 705 presented, the Department of Finance and Administration or the 706 board of a governing authority may approve a request for specific 707 equipment necessary to perform a specific job. Further, such 708 justification, when placed on the minutes of the board of a 709 governing authority, may serve as authority for that governing 710 authority to write specifications to require a specific item of 711 equipment needed to perform a specific job. In addition to these requirements, from and after July 1, 1990, vendors of relocatable 712 713 classrooms and the specifications for the purchase of such relocatable classrooms published by local school boards shall meet 714

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715 all pertinent regulations of the State Board of Education, 716 including prior approval of such bid by the State Department of 717 Education.

718 2. Specifications for construction projects 719 may include an allowance for commodities, equipment, furniture, 720 construction materials or systems in which prospective bidders are 721 instructed to include in their bids specified amounts for such 722 items so long as the allowance items are acquired by the vendor in 723 a commercially reasonable manner and approved by the agency/governing authority. Such acquisitions shall not be made 724 725 to circumvent the public purchasing laws.

726 Electronic bids. Agencies and governing (v) 727 authorities shall provide a secure electronic interactive system 728 for the submittal of bids requiring competitive bidding that shall 729 be an additional bidding option for those bidders who choose to 730 submit their bids electronically. The Department of Finance and 731 Administration shall provide, by regulation, the standards that 732 agencies must follow when receiving electronic bids. Agencies and 733 governing authorities shall make the appropriate provisions 734 necessary to accept electronic bids from those bidders who choose 735 to submit their bids electronically for all purchases requiring 736 competitive bidding under this section. Any special condition or 737 requirement for the electronic bid submission shall be specified 738 in the advertisement for bids required by this section. Agencies or governing authorities that are currently without available high 739

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740 speed Internet access shall be exempt from the requirement of this 741 subparagraph (v) until such time that high speed Internet access 742 becomes available. Any county having a population of less than 743 twenty thousand (20,000) shall be exempt from the provisions of 744 this subparagraph (v). Any municipality having a population of 745 less than ten thousand (10,000) shall be exempt from the 746 provisions of this subparagraph (v). The provisions of this 747 subparagraph (v) shall not require any bidder to submit bids 748 electronically. When construction bids are submitted 749 electronically, the requirement for including a certificate of 750 responsibility, or a statement that the bid enclosed does not 751 exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), on the exterior of the 752 bid envelope as indicated in Section 31-3-21(1) and (2) shall be 753 deemed in compliance with by including same as an attachment with 754 the electronic bid submittal.

755

(d) Lowest and best bid decision procedure.

756 Decision procedure. Purchases may be made (i) 757 from the lowest and best bidder. In determining the lowest and 758 best bid, freight and shipping charges shall be included. 759 Life-cycle costing, total cost bids, warranties, guaranteed 760 buy-back provisions and other relevant provisions may be included 761 in the best bid calculation. All best bid procedures for state 762 agencies must be in compliance with regulations established by the 763 Department of Finance and Administration. If any governing 764 authority accepts a bid other than the lowest bid actually

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submitted, it shall place on its minutes detailed calculations and narrative summary showing that the accepted bid was determined to be the lowest and best bid, including the dollar amount of the accepted bid and the dollar amount of the lowest bid. No agency or governing authority shall accept a bid based on items not included in the specifications.

771 (ii) Decision procedure for Certified Purchasing 772 Offices. In addition to the decision procedure set forth in 773 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (d), Certified Purchasing 774 Offices may also use the following procedure: Purchases may be 775 made from the bidder offering the best value. In determining the 776 best value bid, freight and shipping charges shall be included. 777 Life-cycle costing, total cost bids, warranties, guaranteed 778 buy-back provisions, documented previous experience, training 779 costs and other relevant provisions, including, but not limited 780 to, a bidder having a local office and inventory located within 781 the jurisdiction of the governing authority, may be included in 782 the best value calculation. This provision shall authorize 783 Certified Purchasing Offices to utilize a Request For Proposals 784 (RFP) process when purchasing commodities. All best value 785 procedures for state agencies must be in compliance with 786 regulations established by the Department of Finance and 787 Administration. No agency or governing authority shall accept a 788 bid based on items or criteria not included in the specifications.

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789

(iii) Decision procedure for Mississippi

790 Landmarks. In addition to the decision procedure set forth in 791 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (d), where purchase involves 792 renovation, restoration, or both, of the State Capitol Building or 793 any other historical building designated for at least five (5) 794 years as a Mississippi Landmark by the Board of Trustees of the 795 Department of Archives and History under the authority of Sections 796 39-7-7 and 39-7-11, the agency or governing authority may use the 797 following procedure: Purchases may be made from the lowest and 798 best prequalified bidder. Prequalification of bidders shall be 799 determined not less than fifteen (15) working days before the 800 first published notice of bid opening. Prequalification criteria 801 shall be limited to bidder's knowledge and experience in 802 historical restoration, preservation and renovation. In 803 determining the lowest and best bid, freight and shipping charges 804 shall be included. Life-cycle costing, total cost bids, 805 warranties, guaranteed buy-back provisions and other relevant 806 provisions may be included in the best bid calculation. All best 807 bid and prequalification procedures for state agencies must be in 808 compliance with regulations established by the Department of 809 Finance and Administration. If any governing authority accepts a 810 bid other than the lowest bid actually submitted, it shall place 811 on its minutes detailed calculations and narrative summary showing 812 that the accepted bid was determined to be the lowest and best bid, including the dollar amount of the accepted bid and the 813

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814 dollar amount of the lowest bid. No agency or governing authority 815 shall accept a bid based on items not included in the 816 specifications.

(iv) Construction project negotiations authority.
If the lowest and best bid is not more than ten percent (10%)
above the amount of funds allocated for a public construction or
renovation project, then the agency or governing authority shall
be permitted to negotiate with the lowest bidder in order to enter
into a contract for an amount not to exceed the funds allocated.

823 (e) Lease-purchase authorization. For the purposes of 824 this section, the term "equipment" shall mean equipment, furniture 825 and, if applicable, associated software and other applicable 826 direct costs associated with the acquisition. Any lease-purchase 827 of equipment which an agency is not required to lease-purchase 828 under the master lease-purchase program pursuant to Section 829 31-7-10 and any lease-purchase of equipment which a governing 830 authority elects to lease-purchase may be acquired by a 831 lease-purchase agreement under this paragraph (e). Lease-purchase 832 financing may also be obtained from the vendor or from a 833 third-party source after having solicited and obtained at least 834 two (2) written competitive bids, as defined in paragraph (b) of 835 this section, for such financing without advertising for such 836 bids. Solicitation for the bids for financing may occur before or 837 after acceptance of bids for the purchase of such equipment or, 838 where no such bids for purchase are required, at any time before

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839 the purchase thereof. No such lease-purchase agreement shall be 840 for an annual rate of interest which is greater than the overall 841 maximum interest rate to maturity on general obligation 842 indebtedness permitted under Section 75-17-101, and the term of 843 such lease-purchase agreement shall not exceed the useful life of 844 equipment covered thereby as determined according to the upper 845 limit of the asset depreciation range (ADR) guidelines for the 846 Class Life Asset Depreciation Range System established by the 847 Internal Revenue Service pursuant to the United States Internal 848 Revenue Code and regulations thereunder as in effect on December 849 31, 1980, or comparable depreciation guidelines with respect to 850 any equipment not covered by ADR guidelines. Any lease-purchase 851 agreement entered into pursuant to this paragraph (e) may contain 852 any of the terms and conditions which a master lease-purchase 853 agreement may contain under the provisions of Section 31-7-10(5), 854 and shall contain an annual allocation dependency clause 855 substantially similar to that set forth in Section 31-7-10(8). 856 Each agency or governing authority entering into a lease-purchase 857 transaction pursuant to this paragraph (e) shall maintain with 858 respect to each such lease-purchase transaction the same 859 information as required to be maintained by the Department of 860 Finance and Administration pursuant to Section 31-7-10(13). 861 However, nothing contained in this section shall be construed to 862 permit agencies to acquire items of equipment with a total 863 acquisition cost in the aggregate of less than Ten Thousand

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Dollars (\$10,000.00) by a single lease-purchase transaction. All equipment, and the purchase thereof by any lessor, acquired by lease-purchase under this paragraph and all lease-purchase payments with respect thereto shall be exempt from all Mississippi sales, use and ad valorem taxes. Interest paid on any lease-purchase agreement under this section shall be exempt from State of Mississippi income taxation.

871 (f) Alternate bid authorization. When necessary to 872 ensure ready availability of commodities for public works and the 873 timely completion of public projects, no more than two (2) 874 alternate bids may be accepted by a governing authority for 875 commodities. No purchases may be made through use of such 876 alternate bids procedure unless the lowest and best bidder cannot 877 deliver the commodities contained in his bid. In that event, 878 purchases of such commodities may be made from one (1) of the 879 bidders whose bid was accepted as an alternate.

880 Construction contract change authorization. (q) In the 881 event a determination is made by an agency or governing authority 882 after a construction contract is let that changes or modifications 883 to the original contract are necessary or would better serve the 884 purpose of the agency or the governing authority, such agency or 885 governing authority may, in its discretion, order such changes 886 pertaining to the construction that are necessary under the 887 circumstances without the necessity of further public bids; 888 provided that such change shall be made in a commercially

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889 reasonable manner and shall not be made to circumvent the public 890 purchasing statutes. In addition to any other authorized person, 891 the architect or engineer hired by an agency or governing 892 authority with respect to any public construction contract shall 893 have the authority, when granted by an agency or governing 894 authority, to authorize changes or modifications to the original 895 contract without the necessity of prior approval of the agency or 896 governing authority when any such change or modification is less 897 than one percent (1%) of the total contract amount. The agency or 898 governing authority may limit the number, manner or frequency of 899 such emergency changes or modifications.

900 Petroleum purchase alternative. In addition to (h) 901 other methods of purchasing authorized in this chapter, when any 902 agency or governing authority shall have a need for gas, diesel 903 fuel, oils and/or other petroleum products in excess of the amount 904 set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, such agency or 905 governing authority may purchase the commodity after having 906 solicited and obtained at least two (2) competitive written bids, 907 as defined in paragraph (b) of this section. If two (2) 908 competitive written bids are not obtained, the entity shall comply 909 with the procedures set forth in paragraph (c) of this section. 910 In the event any agency or governing authority shall have 911 advertised for bids for the purchase of gas, diesel fuel, oils and 912 other petroleum products and coal and no acceptable bids can be obtained, such agency or governing authority is authorized and 913

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914 directed to enter into any negotiations necessary to secure the 915 lowest and best contract available for the purchase of such 916 commodities.

917 Road construction petroleum products price (i) 918 adjustment clause authorization. Any agency or governing 919 authority authorized to enter into contracts for the construction, 920 maintenance, surfacing or repair of highways, roads or streets, 921 may include in its bid proposal and contract documents a price 922 adjustment clause with relation to the cost to the contractor, 923 including taxes, based upon an industry-wide cost index, of 924 petroleum products including asphalt used in the performance or 925 execution of the contract or in the production or manufacture of 926 materials for use in such performance. Such industry-wide index 927 shall be established and published monthly by the Mississippi 928 Department of Transportation with a copy thereof to be mailed, 929 upon request, to the clerks of the governing authority of each 930 municipality and the clerks of each board of supervisors 931 throughout the state. The price adjustment clause shall be based 932 on the cost of such petroleum products only and shall not include 933 any additional profit or overhead as part of the adjustment. The 934 bid proposals or document contract shall contain the basis and 935 methods of adjusting unit prices for the change in the cost of 936 such petroleum products.

937 (j) **State agency emergency purchase procedure**. If the 938 governing board or the executive head, or his designees, of any

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939 agency of the state shall determine that an emergency exists in 940 regard to the purchase of any commodities or repair contracts, so 941 that the delay incident to giving opportunity for competitive 942 bidding would be detrimental to the interests of the state, then 943 the head of such agency, or his designees, shall file with the 944 Department of Finance and Administration (i) a statement 945 explaining the conditions and circumstances of the emergency, 946 which shall include a detailed description of the events leading 947 up to the situation and the negative impact to the entity if the 948 purchase is made following the statutory requirements set forth in 949 paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of this section, and (ii) a certified 950 copy of the appropriate minutes of the board of such agency 951 requesting the emergency purchase, if applicable. Upon receipt of 952 the statement and applicable board certification, the State Fiscal 953 Officer, or his designees, may, in writing, authorize the purchase 954 or repair without having to comply with competitive bidding 955 requirements.

956 If the governing board or the executive head, or his 957 designees, of any agency determines that an emergency exists in 958 regard to the purchase of any commodities or repair contracts, so 959 that the delay incident to giving opportunity for competitive 960 bidding would threaten the health or safety of any person, or the 961 preservation or protection of property, then the provisions in 962 this section for competitive bidding shall not apply, and any 963 officer or agent of the agency having general or specific

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964 authority for making the purchase or repair contract shall approve 965 the bill presented for payment, and he shall certify in writing 966 from whom the purchase was made, or with whom the repair contract 967 was made.

968 Total purchases made under this paragraph (j) shall only be 969 for the purpose of meeting needs created by the emergency 970 situation. Following the emergency purchase, documentation of the purchase, including a description of the commodity purchased, the 971 972 purchase price thereof and the nature of the emergency shall be 973 filed with the Department of Finance and Administration. Anv 974 contract awarded pursuant to this paragraph (j) shall not exceed a 975 term of one (1) year.

Purchases under the grant program established under Section 37-68-7 in response to COVID-19 and the directive that school districts create a distance learning plan and fulfill technology needs expeditiously shall be deemed an emergency purchase for purposes of this paragraph (j).

981 Governing authority emergency purchase procedure. (k) 982 If the governing authority, or the governing authority acting 983 through its designee, shall determine that an emergency exists in 984 regard to the purchase of any commodities or repair contracts, so 985 that the delay incident to giving opportunity for competitive 986 bidding would be detrimental to the interest of the governing 987 authority, then the provisions herein for competitive bidding 988 shall not apply and any officer or agent of such governing

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989 authority having general or special authority therefor in making 990 such purchase or repair shall approve the bill presented therefor, 991 and he shall certify in writing thereon from whom such purchase 992 was made, or with whom such a repair contract was made. At the 993 board meeting next following the emergency purchase or repair 994 contract, documentation of the purchase or repair contract, 995 including a description of the commodity purchased, the price 996 thereof and the nature of the emergency shall be presented to the 997 board and shall be placed on the minutes of the board of such 998 governing authority. Purchases under the grant program established under Section 37-68-7 in response to COVID-19 and the 999 1000 directive that school districts create a distance learning plan 1001 and fulfill technology needs expeditiously shall be deemed an 1002 emergency purchase for purposes of this paragraph (k).

1003 (1) Hospital purchase, lease-purchase and lease1004 authorization.

(i) The commissioners or board of trustees of any public hospital may contract with such lowest and best bidder for the purchase or lease-purchase of any commodity under a contract of purchase or lease-purchase agreement whose obligatory payment terms do not exceed five (5) years.

(ii) In addition to the authority granted in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (l), the commissioners or board of trustees is authorized to enter into contracts for the lease of equipment or services, or both, which it considers necessary for

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1014 the proper care of patients if, in its opinion, it is not 1015 financially feasible to purchase the necessary equipment or services. Any such contract for the lease of equipment or 1016 1017 services executed by the commissioners or board shall not exceed a 1018 maximum of five (5) years' duration and shall include a 1019 cancellation clause based on unavailability of funds. If such 1020 cancellation clause is exercised, there shall be no further 1021 liability on the part of the lessee. Any such contract for the 1022 lease of equipment or services executed on behalf of the 1023 commissioners or board that complies with the provisions of this 1024 subparagraph (ii) shall be excepted from the bid requirements set 1025 forth in this section.

1026 (m) Exceptions from bidding requirements. Excepted1027 from bid requirements are:

1028 (i) Purchasing agreements approved by department.
1029 Purchasing agreements, contracts and maximum price regulations
1030 executed or approved by the Department of Finance and
1031 Administration.

1032 (ii) Outside equipment repairs. Repairs to 1033 equipment, when such repairs are made by repair facilities in the 1034 private sector; however, engines, transmissions, rear axles and/or 1035 other such components shall not be included in this exemption when replaced as a complete unit instead of being repaired and the need 1036 1037 for such total component replacement is known before disassembly 1038 of the component; however, invoices identifying the equipment,

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1039 specific repairs made, parts identified by number and name, 1040 supplies used in such repairs, and the number of hours of labor 1041 and costs therefor shall be required for the payment for such 1042 repairs.

(iii) In-house equipment repairs. Purchases of parts for repairs to equipment, when such repairs are made by personnel of the agency or governing authority; however, entire assemblies, such as engines or transmissions, shall not be included in this exemption when the entire assembly is being replaced instead of being repaired.

1049 (iv) **Raw gravel or dirt**. Raw unprocessed deposits 1050 of gravel or fill dirt which are to be removed and transported by 1051 the purchaser.

1052 Governmental equipment auctions. (V) Motor 1053 vehicles or other equipment purchased from a federal agency or 1054 authority, another governing authority or state agency of the 1055 State of Mississippi, or any governing authority or state agency 1056 of another state at a public auction held for the purpose of 1057 disposing of such vehicles or other equipment. Any purchase by a 1058 governing authority under the exemption authorized by this 1059 subparagraph (v) shall require advance authorization spread upon 1060 the minutes of the governing authority to include the listing of the item or items authorized to be purchased and the maximum bid 1061 authorized to be paid for each item or items. 1062

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1063 (vi) Intergovernmental sales and transfers. 1064 Purchases, sales, transfers or trades by governing authorities or state agencies when such purchases, sales, transfers or trades are 1065 1066 made by a private treaty agreement or through means of 1067 negotiation, from any federal agency or authority, another 1068 governing authority or state agency of the State of Mississippi, 1069 or any state agency or governing authority of another state. 1070 Nothing in this section shall permit such purchases through public 1071 auction except as provided for in subparagraph (v) of this paragraph (m). It is the intent of this section to allow 1072 1073 governmental entities to dispose of and/or purchase commodities 1074 from other governmental entities at a price that is agreed to by 1075 both parties. This shall allow for purchases and/or sales at 1076 prices which may be determined to be below the market value if the 1077 selling entity determines that the sale at below market value is 1078 in the best interest of the taxpayers of the state. Governing 1079 authorities shall place the terms of the agreement and any 1080 justification on the minutes, and state agencies shall obtain 1081 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration, prior 1082 to releasing or taking possession of the commodities.

(vii) Perishable supplies or food. Perishable
supplies or food purchased for use in connection with hospitals,
the school lunch programs, homemaking programs and for the feeding
of county or municipal prisoners.

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1087 (viii) Single-source items. Noncompetitive items 1088 available from one (1) source only. In connection with the purchase of noncompetitive items only available from one (1) 1089 1090 source, a certification of the conditions and circumstances 1091 requiring the purchase shall be filed by the agency with the 1092 Department of Finance and Administration and by the governing 1093 authority with the board of the governing authority. Upon receipt 1094 of that certification the Department of Finance and Administration 1095 or the board of the governing authority, as the case may be, may, 1096 in writing, authorize the purchase, which authority shall be noted 1097 on the minutes of the body at the next regular meeting thereafter. 1098 In those situations, a governing authority is not required to 1099 obtain the approval of the Department of Finance and 1100 Administration. Following the purchase, the executive head of the state agency, or his designees, shall file with the Department of 1101 1102 Finance and Administration, documentation of the purchase, 1103 including a description of the commodity purchased, the purchase price thereof and the source from whom it was purchased. 1104

(ix) Waste disposal facility construction contracts. Construction of incinerators and other facilities for disposal of solid wastes in which products either generated therein, such as steam, or recovered therefrom, such as materials for recycling, are to be sold or otherwise disposed of; however, in constructing such facilities, a governing authority or agency shall publicly issue requests for proposals, advertised for in the

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1112 same manner as provided herein for seeking bids for public 1113 construction projects, concerning the design, construction, ownership, operation and/or maintenance of such facilities, 1114 1115 wherein such requests for proposals when issued shall contain 1116 terms and conditions relating to price, financial responsibility, 1117 technology, environmental compatibility, legal responsibilities and such other matters as are determined by the governing 1118 1119 authority or agency to be appropriate for inclusion; and after 1120 responses to the request for proposals have been duly received, 1121 the governing authority or agency may select the most qualified 1122 proposal or proposals on the basis of price, technology and other relevant factors and from such proposals, but not limited to the 1123 1124 terms thereof, negotiate and enter contracts with one or more of 1125 the persons or firms submitting proposals.

(x) Hospital group purchase contracts. Supplies,
commodities and equipment purchased by hospitals through group
purchase programs pursuant to Section 31-7-38.

(xi) Information technology products. Purchases of information technology products made by governing authorities under the provisions of purchase schedules, or contracts executed or approved by the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services and designated for use by governing authorities.

1135 (xii) Energy efficiency services and equipment.
1136 Energy efficiency services and equipment acquired by school

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1137 districts, community and junior colleges, institutions of higher 1138 learning and state agencies or other applicable governmental 1139 entities on a shared-savings, lease or lease-purchase basis 1140 pursuant to Section 31-7-14.

(xiii) Municipal electrical utility system fuel.
Purchases of coal and/or natural gas by municipally owned electric
power generating systems that have the capacity to use both coal
and natural gas for the generation of electric power.

1145 Library books and other reference materials. (xiv) 1146 Purchases by libraries or for libraries of books and periodicals; 1147 processed film, videocassette tapes, filmstrips and slides; 1148 recorded audiotapes, cassettes and diskettes; and any such items 1149 as would be used for teaching, research or other information distribution; however, equipment such as projectors, recorders, 1150 1151 audio or video equipment, and monitor televisions are not exempt 1152 under this subparagraph.

(xv) Unmarked vehicles. Purchases of unmarked vehicles when such purchases are made in accordance with purchasing regulations adopted by the Department of Finance and Administration pursuant to Section 31-7-9(2).

1157 (xvi) Election ballots. Purchases of ballots1158 printed pursuant to Section 23-15-351.

(xvii) Multichannel interactive video systems.
From and after July 1, 1990, contracts by Mississippi Authority
for Educational Television with any private educational

24/HR31/SB3070A.2J PAGE 46 (BS/JAB) institution or private nonprofit organization whose purposes are educational in regard to the construction, purchase, lease or lease-purchase of facilities and equipment and the employment of personnel for providing multichannel interactive video systems (ITSF) in the school districts of this state.

(xviii) Purchases of prison industry products by the Department of Corrections, regional correctional facilities or privately owned prisons. Purchases made by the Mississippi Department of Corrections, regional correctional facilities or privately owned prisons involving any item that is manufactured, processed, grown or produced from the state's prison industries.

(xix) Undercover operations equipment. Purchases of surveillance equipment or any other high-tech equipment to be used by law enforcement agents in undercover operations, provided that any such purchase shall be in compliance with regulations established by the Department of Finance and Administration.

1178 (xx) **Junior college books for rent**. Purchases by 1179 community or junior colleges of textbooks which are obtained for 1180 the purpose of renting such books to students as part of a book 1181 service system.

1183 Purchases of commodities made by school districts from vendors 1184 with which any levying authority of the school district, as 1185 defined in Section 37-57-1, has contracted through competitive 1186 bidding procedures for purchases of the same commodities.

(xxi)

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1182

Certain school district purchases.

1187 (xxii) Garbage, solid waste and sewage contracts.
1188 Contracts for garbage collection or disposal, contracts for solid
1189 waste collection or disposal and contracts for sewage collection
1190 or disposal.

(xxiii) Municipal water tank maintenance
contracts. Professional maintenance program contracts for the
repair or maintenance of municipal water tanks, which provide
professional services needed to maintain municipal water storage
tanks for a fixed annual fee for a duration of two (2) or more
years.

1197 (xxiv) Purchases of Mississippi Industries for the 1198 Blind products or services. Purchases made by state agencies or 1199 governing authorities involving any item that is manufactured, 1200 processed or produced by, or any services provided by, the 1201 Mississippi Industries for the Blind.

1202 (xxv) Purchases of state-adopted textbooks.
1203 Purchases of state-adopted textbooks by public school districts.
1204 (xxvi) Certain purchases under the Mississippi
1205 Major Economic Impact Act. Contracts entered into pursuant to the
1206 provisions of Section 57-75-9(2), (3) and (4).

1207 (xxvii) Used heavy or specialized machinery or
1208 equipment for installation of soil and water conservation
1209 practices purchased at auction. Used heavy or specialized
1210 machinery or equipment used for the installation and
1211 implementation of soil and water conservation practices or

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1212 measures purchased subject to the restrictions provided in 1213 Sections 69-27-331 through 69-27-341. Any purchase by the State 1214 Soil and Water Conservation Commission under the exemption 1215 authorized by this subparagraph shall require advance 1216 authorization spread upon the minutes of the commission to include 1217 the listing of the item or items authorized to be purchased and 1218 the maximum bid authorized to be paid for each item or items.

1219 (xxviii) Hospital lease of equipment or services.
1220 Leases by hospitals of equipment or services if the leases are in
1221 compliance with paragraph (l)(ii).

1222 (xxix) Purchases made pursuant to qualified 1223 cooperative purchasing agreements. Purchases made by certified 1224 purchasing offices of state agencies or governing authorities 1225 under cooperative purchasing agreements previously approved by the 1226 Office of Purchasing and Travel and established by or for any 1227 municipality, county, parish or state government or the federal 1228 government, provided that the notification to potential 1229 contractors includes a clause that sets forth the availability of 1230 the cooperative purchasing agreement to other governmental 1231 entities. Such purchases shall only be made if the use of the 1232 cooperative purchasing agreements is determined to be in the best 1233 interest of the governmental entity.

1234 (xxx) School yearbooks. Purchases of school
1235 yearbooks by state agencies or governing authorities; however,
1236 state agencies and governing authorities shall use for these

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1237 purchases the RFP process as set forth in the Mississippi 1238 Procurement Manual adopted by the Office of Purchasing and Travel. 1239 (xxxi) Design-build method of contracting and certain other contracts. Contracts entered into under the 1240 1241 provisions of Section 31-7-13.1, 37-101-44 or 65-1-85. 1242 (xxxii) Toll roads and bridge construction 1243 projects. Contracts entered into under the provisions of Section 65-43-1 or 65-43-3. 1244 1245 (xxxiii) Certain purchases under Section 57-1-221. 1246 Contracts entered into pursuant to the provisions of Section 1247 57-1-221. 1248 (xxxiv) Certain transfers made pursuant to the 1249 provisions of Section 57-105-1(7). Transfers of public property 1250 or facilities under Section 57-105-1(7) and construction related 1251 to such public property or facilities. 1252 (XXXV) Certain purchases or transfers entered into 1253 with local electrical power associations. Contracts or agreements 1254 entered into under the provisions of Section 55-3-33. 1255 (xxxvi) Certain purchases by an academic medical 1256 center or health sciences school. Purchases by an academic 1257 medical center or health sciences school, as defined in Section 1258 37-115-50, of commodities that are used for clinical purposes and 1259 1. intended for use in the diagnosis of disease or other conditions or in the cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of 1260 1261 disease, and 2. medical devices, biological, drugs and

24/HR31/SB3070A.2J PAGE 50 (BS/JAB) 1262 radiation-emitting devices as defined by the United States Food 1263 and Drug Administration.

1264 (xxxvii) Certain purchases made under the Alyce G.
1265 Clarke Mississippi Lottery Law. Contracts made by the Mississippi
1266 Lottery Corporation pursuant to the Alyce G. Clarke Mississippi
1267 Lottery Law.

(xxxviii) Certain purchases made by the Department of Health and the Department of Revenue. Purchases made by the Department of Health and the Department of Revenue solely for the purpose of fulfilling their respective responsibilities under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act. This subparagraph shall stand repealed on June 30, 2026.

1274(xxxvix)Certain transfers made pursuant to the1275provisions of Section 1(7) of this act. Transfers of public1276property or facilities under Section 1(7) of this act and1277construction related to such public property or facilities.1278(n)Term contract authorization.All contracts for the

1279 purchase of:

(i) All contracts for the purchase of commodities,
equipment and public construction (including, but not limited to,
repair and maintenance), may be let for periods of not more than
sixty (60) months in advance, subject to applicable statutory
provisions prohibiting the letting of contracts during specified
periods near the end of terms of office. Term contracts for a
period exceeding twenty-four (24) months shall also be subject to

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1287 ratification or cancellation by governing authority boards taking 1288 office subsequent to the governing authority board entering the 1289 contract.

1290 (ii) Bid proposals and contracts may include price 1291 adjustment clauses with relation to the cost to the contractor 1292 based upon a nationally published industry-wide or nationally 1293 published and recognized cost index. The cost index used in a 1294 price adjustment clause shall be determined by the Department of 1295 Finance and Administration for the state agencies and by the 1296 governing board for governing authorities. The bid proposal and 1297 contract documents utilizing a price adjustment clause shall 1298 contain the basis and method of adjusting unit prices for the 1299 change in the cost of such commodities, equipment and public 1300 construction.

1301 (0)Purchase law violation prohibition and vendor 1302 penalty. No contract or purchase as herein authorized shall be 1303 made for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this 1304 section requiring competitive bids, nor shall it be lawful for any 1305 person or concern to submit individual invoices for amounts within 1306 those authorized for a contract or purchase where the actual value 1307 of the contract or commodity purchased exceeds the authorized 1308 amount and the invoices therefor are split so as to appear to be 1309 authorized as purchases for which competitive bids are not 1310 Submission of such invoices shall constitute a required. 1311 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than Five Hundred

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Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment for thirty (30) days in the county jail, or both such fine and imprisonment. In addition, the claim or claims submitted shall be forfeited.

(p) Electrical utility petroleum-based equipment purchase procedure. When in response to a proper advertisement therefor, no bid firm as to price is submitted to an electric utility for power transformers, distribution transformers, power breakers, reclosers or other articles containing a petroleum product, the electric utility may accept the lowest and best bid therefor although the price is not firm.

1323 Fuel management system bidding procedure. (a) Anv 1324 governing authority or agency of the state shall, before 1325 contracting for the services and products of a fuel management or 1326 fuel access system, enter into negotiations with not fewer than 1327 two (2) sellers of fuel management or fuel access systems for 1328 competitive written bids to provide the services and products for 1329 the systems. In the event that the governing authority or agency 1330 cannot locate two (2) sellers of such systems or cannot obtain 1331 bids from two (2) sellers of such systems, it shall show proof 1332 that it made a diligent, good-faith effort to locate and negotiate 1333 with two (2) sellers of such systems. Such proof shall include, 1334 but not be limited to, publications of a request for proposals and letters soliciting negotiations and bids. For purposes of this 1335 1336 paragraph (q), a fuel management or fuel access system is an

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1337 automated system of acquiring fuel for vehicles as well as 1338 management reports detailing fuel use by vehicles and drivers, and the term "competitive written bid" shall have the meaning as 1339 defined in paragraph (b) of this section. Governing authorities 1340 1341 and agencies shall be exempt from this process when contracting 1342 for the services and products of fuel management or fuel access systems under the terms of a state contract established by the 1343 1344 Office of Purchasing and Travel.

1345 Solid waste contract proposal procedure. (r) Before 1346 entering into any contract for garbage collection or disposal, 1347 contract for solid waste collection or disposal or contract for sewage collection or disposal, which involves an expenditure of 1348 1349 more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), a governing 1350 authority or agency shall issue publicly a request for proposals 1351 concerning the specifications for such services which shall be 1352 advertised for in the same manner as provided in this section for 1353 seeking bids for purchases which involve an expenditure of more 1354 than the amount provided in paragraph (c) of this section. Any 1355 request for proposals when issued shall contain terms and 1356 conditions relating to price, financial responsibility, 1357 technology, legal responsibilities and other relevant factors as 1358 are determined by the governing authority or agency to be appropriate for inclusion; all factors determined relevant by the 1359 1360 governing authority or agency or required by this paragraph (r) 1361 shall be duly included in the advertisement to elicit proposals.

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1362 After responses to the request for proposals have been duly 1363 received, the governing authority or agency shall select the most qualified proposal or proposals on the basis of price, technology 1364 1365 and other relevant factors and from such proposals, but not 1366 limited to the terms thereof, negotiate and enter into contracts 1367 with one or more of the persons or firms submitting proposals. If the governing authority or agency deems none of the proposals to 1368 1369 be qualified or otherwise acceptable, the request for proposals 1370 process may be reinitiated. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph, where a county with at least thirty-five 1371 1372 thousand (35,000) nor more than forty thousand (40,000)population, according to the 1990 federal decennial census, owns 1373 or operates a solid waste landfill, the governing authorities of 1374 any other county or municipality may contract with the governing 1375 1376 authorities of the county owning or operating the landfill, 1377 pursuant to a resolution duly adopted and spread upon the minutes 1378 of each governing authority involved, for garbage or solid waste collection or disposal services through contract negotiations. 1379

(s) Minority set-aside authorization. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, any agency or governing authority, by order placed on its minutes, may, in its discretion, set aside not more than twenty percent (20%) of its anticipated annual expenditures for the purchase of commodities from minority businesses; however, all such set-aside purchases shall comply with all purchasing regulations promulgated by the

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1387 Department of Finance and Administration and shall be subject to 1388 bid requirements under this section. Set-aside purchases for 1389 which competitive bids are required shall be made from the lowest 1390 and best minority business bidder. For the purposes of this 1391 paragraph, the term "minority business" means a business which is 1392 owned by a majority of persons who are United States citizens or 1393 permanent resident aliens (as defined by the Immigration and 1394 Naturalization Service) of the United States, and who are Asian, 1395 Black, Hispanic or Native American, according to the following 1396 definitions:

(i) "Asian" means persons having origins in any of
the original people of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian
subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands.

1400 (ii) "Black" means persons having origins in any1401 black racial group of Africa.

1402 (iii) "Hispanic" means persons of Spanish or
1403 Portuguese culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central
1404 America, or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race.

1405 (iv) "Native American" means persons having 1406 origins in any of the original people of North America, including 1407 American Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts.

(t) Construction punch list restriction. The
architect, engineer or other representative designated by the
agency or governing authority that is contracting for public
construction or renovation may prepare and submit to the

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1416 Procurement of construction services by state (u) 1417 institutions of higher learning. Contracts for privately financed construction of auxiliary facilities on the campus of a state 1418 1419 institution of higher learning may be awarded by the Board of 1420 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning to the lowest 1421 and best bidder, where sealed bids are solicited, or to the 1422 offeror whose proposal is determined to represent the best value 1423 to the citizens of the State of Mississippi, where requests for 1424 proposals are solicited.

1425 Insurability of bidders for public construction or (V) 1426 other public contracts. In any solicitation for bids to perform 1427 public construction or other public contracts to which this 1428 section applies, including, but not limited to, contracts for 1429 repair and maintenance, for which the contract will require 1430 insurance coverage in an amount of not less than One Million 1431 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), bidders shall be permitted to either 1432 submit proof of current insurance coverage in the specified amount 1433 or demonstrate ability to obtain the required coverage amount of insurance if the contract is awarded to the bidder. Proof of 1434 1435 insurance coverage shall be submitted within five (5) business 1436 days from bid acceptance.

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1437 (w) Purchase authorization clarification. Nothing in 1438 this section shall be construed as authorizing any purchase not 1439 authorized by law.

1440 Mississippi Regional Pre-Need Disaster Clean Up (\mathbf{X}) 1441 The Department of Finance and Administration shall Act. (i) 1442 enter into nine (9) contracts for the pre-need purchase of labor, 1443 services, work, materials, equipment, supplies or other personal 1444 property for disaster-related solid waste collection, disposal or 1445 monitoring. One (1) contract shall be entered into for each of 1446 the nine (9) Mississippi Emergency Management Association 1447 districts:

1448 1. Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Panola, Quitman,1449 Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica and Yalobusha Counties;

1450 2. Alcorn, Benton, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee,
1451 Marshall, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo and Union
1452 Counties;

1453 3. Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Holmes, 1454 Humphreys, Leflore, Montgomery, Sunflower and Washington Counties; 1455 4. Calhoun, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, 1456 Lowndes, Monroe, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster and Winston Counties; 1457 5. Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Issaquena, 1458 Madison, Rankin, Sharkey, Simpson, Warren and Yazoo Counties; 1459 6. Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, and Smith Counties and the Mississippi 1460 Band of Choctaw Indians; 1461

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1462 7. Adams, Amite, Franklin, Jefferson,
1463 Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson Counties;
1464 8. Covington, Forrest, Greene, Jefferson
1465 Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Perry and Wayne Counties; and
1466 9. George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl
1467 River and Stone Counties.

1468 Any such contract shall set forth the manner of awarding such 1469 a contract, the method of payment, and any other matter deemed 1470 necessary to carry out the purposes of the agreement. Such 1471 contract may be entered into only for a term of one (1) year, with 1472 an option for an additional one-year extension after the conclusion of the first year of the contract, and only after 1473 1474 having solicited bids or proposals, as appropriate, which shall be 1475 publicly advertised by posting on a web page maintained by the 1476 Department of Finance and Administration through submission of 1477 such advertisement to the Mississippi Procurement Technical 1478 Assistance Program under the Mississippi Development Authority. 1479 The bid opening shall not occur until after the submission has 1480 been posted for at least ten (10) consecutive days. The state's 1481 share of expenditures for solid waste collection, disposal or 1482 monitoring under any contract shall be appropriated and paid in 1483 the manner set forth in the contract and in the same manner as for other solid waste collection, disposal, or monitoring expenses of 1484 1485 the state. Any contract entered into under this paragraph shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 17-13-11. 1486

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1487 (ii) Any board of supervisors of any county or any 1488 governing authority of any municipality may opt in to the benefits 1489 and services provided under the appropriate and relevant contract 1490 established in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph at the time of a 1491 disaster event in that county or municipality. At the time of opt 1492 in, the county or municipality shall assume responsibility for 1493 payment in full to the contractor for the disaster-related solid 1494 waste collection, disposal or monitoring services provided. 1495 Nothing in this subparagraph (ii) shall be construed as requiring 1496 a county or municipality to opt in to any such contract 1497 established in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph.

1498SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from1499and 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 PROVIDE FOR AN INCOME TAX AND INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX 2 CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS THAT PAY A QUALIFIED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 3 ENTITY FOR QUALIFIED EQUITY INVESTMENTS; TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS 4 FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE TAX CREDIT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE AMOUNT OF 5 THE CREDIT SHALL BE EQUAL TO A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF THE ADJUSTED 6 PURCHASE PRICE PAID TO THE QUALIFIED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENTITY 7 FOR THE QUALIFIED EQUITY INVESTMENT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MAXIMUM 8 AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE CREDITS THAT MAY BE ALLOCATED TO ALL 9 TAXPAYERS IN ANY ONE STATE FISCAL YEAR SHALL NOT EXCEED \$20,000,000.00 AND THAT THE CREDITS SHALL BE ALLOCATED BY THE 10 11 MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECAPTURE OF 12 ALL OR A PORTION OF THE CREDIT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; TO DEFINE THE TERMS "NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT TRANSACTION," "PUBLIC 13 BENEFIT CORPORATION, " "PUBLIC ENTITY OR PUBLIC ENTITIES" AND 14 15 "PUBLIC PROPERTY OR FACILITIES"; TO AUTHORIZE PUBLIC ENTITIES TO 16 CREATE PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENTERING 17 INTO FINANCING AGREEMENTS AND ENGAGING IN NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT 18 TRANSACTIONS; TO AUTHORIZE PUBLIC ENTITIES TO ENTER INTO FINANCING

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19 ARRANGEMENTS IN ORDER TO TRANSFER PUBLIC PROPERTY OR FACILITIES TO 20 OR FROM PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATIONS; TO AUTHORIZE PUBLIC ENTITIES 21 AND PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATIONS, WITH RESPECT TO NEW MARKETS TAX 22 CREDIT TRANSACTIONS, TO ENTER INTO FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS WITH 23 GOVERNMENTAL, NONPROFIT OR FOR PROFIT ENTITIES IN ORDER TO 24 LEVERAGE FUNDS NOT OTHERWISE AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC ENTITIES FOR THE 25 ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION OF PROPERTIES TRANSFERRED 26 TO A PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION; TO AMEND SECTION 27-15-129, 27 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE INVESTMENTS THAT MAY 2.8 REDUCE A TAXPAYER'S INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX LIABILITY UNDER SUCH 29 SECTION SHALL NOT INCLUDE ANY INVESTMENT FOR WHICH A TAX CREDIT IS 30 ALLOCATED UNDER THIS ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 31-7-13, MISSISSIPPI 31 CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR 32 RELATED PURPOSES.