

Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1706

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1

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

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

48 27-104-321. (1) All funds received by or on behalf of the
49 State of Mississippi through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
50 Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
51 (Public Law No. 117-2) shall be deposited into the Coronavirus
52 State Fiscal Recovery Fund created in subsection (2) of this
53 section.

54 (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to
55 be designated as the "Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund."
56 The special fund shall consist of funds required to be deposited
57 into the special fund by subsection (1) of this section, funds
58 appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature in any
59 manner, and funds from any other source designated for deposit
60 into the special fund. Monies in the fund shall only be spent
61 upon appropriation by the Legislature and shall only be used as
62 provided in the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section

63 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law No.
64 117-2) or as authorized by federal rule or regulation or
65 guidelines.

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

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

73 27-104-323. (1) All funds received by or on behalf of the
74 State of Mississippi through the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery
75 Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
76 (Public Law No. 117-2) for distribution to nonentitlement units of
77 local government shall be deposited into the Coronavirus Local
78 Fiscal Recovery Fund created in subsection (2) of this section.

79 (2) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to
80 be designated as the "Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund" to
81 be administered by the Department of Finance and Administration.
82 The special fund shall consist of funds required to be deposited
83 into the special fund by subsection (1) of this section, funds
84 appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature in any
85 manner, and funds from any other source designated for deposit
86 into the special fund. The Department of Finance and
87 Administration shall distribute the funds to the nonentitlement
88 units of local government in accordance with the Coronavirus Local

89 Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan
90 Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2) and any applicable federal
91 guidelines. Such funds shall only be used as provided in the
92 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 9901 of the
93 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law No. 117-2) or as
94 authorized by federal rule or regulation or guidelines.

95 (3) Unexpended amounts remaining in the special fund at the
96 end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General Fund
97 but shall remain in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.
98 The State Fiscal Officer shall transfer to the Coronavirus State
99 Fiscal Recovery Fund the full amount of any investment earnings or
100 interest earned on amounts in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal
101 Recovery Fund that are remaining in the Coronavirus Local Fiscal
102 Recovery Fund on July 1, 2024. Any investment earnings or
103 interest earned on amounts in the * * * Coronavirus Local Fiscal
104 Recovery Fund after July 1, 2024, shall be deposited to the credit
105 of the * * * Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund created in
106 Section 27-104-321.

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

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

113 27-104-325. There is created in the State Treasury a special
114 fund to be designated as the "Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery

115 Lost Revenue Fund," which shall consist of funds calculated based
116 on a reduction in the state's general revenue due to the
117 coronavirus public health emergency, made available through the
118 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the American
119 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and transferred into the fund by act of
120 the Legislature. The fund shall be maintained by the State
121 Treasurer as a separate and special fund, separate and apart from
122 the General Fund of the state. Unexpended amounts remaining in
123 the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the
124 State General Fund, and any investment earnings or interest earned
125 on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to the credit of the
126 fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the Department of
127 Finance and Administration, upon appropriation by the Legislature,
128 for the purpose of providing government services.

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

131 37-153-57. (1) There is established the Accelerate
132 Mississippi Workforce Development Program, which shall be directed
133 by the office for the purpose of providing education and training
134 to citizens seeking employment in high-wage, high-demand
135 industries in the state, including, but not limited to, the
136 nursing and healthcare fields, which were impacted by the
137 disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19. This
138 program shall be subject to the availability of funds appropriated
139 by the Legislature using Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds

140 made available under ARPA or any other funds appropriated by the
141 Legislature.

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

144 (a) "Recipient" means a community college, institution
145 of higher learning, or trainee recipient of grant funding under
146 this section.

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

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

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

155 (i) Necessary equipment or other supplies;

156 (ii) Curricula or other academic or training
157 materials;

158 (iii) Remote learning or other classroom
159 technology;

160 (iv) Stipends for teaching staff or faculty for
161 workforce development programs;

162 (v) Trainee support, including tuition expenses
163 and childcare or transportation assistance;

164 (vi) Coaching or mentoring services;

165 (vii) Job placement services;

166 (viii) Apprenticeship programs; and

167 (ix) Recruitment programs.

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

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

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

175 (i) A description of the high-wage, high-demand
176 field or workforce shortage area the program is intended to
177 address;

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

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

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

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

188 (d) Other relevant information as determined
189 appropriate by the office.

190 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
191 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief

192 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as
193 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
194 approved program will be prioritized for approval.

195 (6) The office shall:

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

198 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
199 administration of the grant program;

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

203 (d) Coordinate with the Department of Employment
204 Security to share information to identify individuals who were
205 furloughed, unemployed, underemployed or otherwise displaced due
206 to COVID-19.

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

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

212 37-153-205. (1) There is established the Accelerate
213 Mississippi Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program, which shall be
214 directed by the office for the purpose of increasing capacity in
215 nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited
216 paramedic programs, job sectors which were severely impacted by
217 the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19.

218 (2) For purposes of this section, the following words shall
219 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context requires
220 otherwise:

221 (a) "Grant program" means the program established in
222 this section, which provides funding, as determined by the office,
223 from federal COVID-19 relief funds to sustain and increase
224 capacity in nursing and allied health education and training
225 programs, including accredited paramedic programs, or to help
226 retain and graduate nursing and allied health students, at
227 community and junior colleges or other entities facilitating
228 healthcare-focused training programs as determined by the office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

246 (i) Necessary equipment or other supplies to
247 sustain or increase capacity in nursing or allied health training
248 programs, including accredited paramedic programs;

249 (ii) Necessary infrastructure, including building
250 renovation or construction, for increasing capacity in nursing or
251 allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic
252 programs;

253 (iii) Curricula or other academic or training
254 materials to sustain or increase capacity in nursing or allied
255 health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs;

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

259 (v) Job placement services for nursing or allied
260 health students and graduates, including those in accredited
261 paramedic programs;

262 (vi) Recruitment programs for nursing or allied
263 health students and graduates, including those in accredited
264 paramedic programs;

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

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

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

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

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

279 (ii) Any relevant waitlist or other information
280 demonstrating high demand for graduates from the relevant nursing
281 or allied health program;

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

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

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

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

292 (d) Other relevant information as determined
293 appropriate by the office.

294 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
295 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief

296 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as
297 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
298 approved program will be prioritized for approval.

299 (6) The office shall:

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

302 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
303 administration of the grant program;

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

308 (d) Prioritize jobs which are high-wage, high-demand
309 jobs within the nursing and allied health fields, including the
310 paramedic field.

311 (7) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the funds provided through
312 the appropriations process for this program shall be reserved for
313 community and junior colleges. A maximum of twenty-five percent
314 (25%) of the funds provided through the appropriations process for
315 this program may be awarded to recipients other than a community
316 or junior college which facilitate healthcare-focused training
317 programs as determined by the office.

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

320 37-153-207. (1) There is established the Accelerate
321 Mississippi Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant

322 Program, which shall be directed by the office for the purpose of
323 creating new or increasing capacity in existing physician
324 residency and fellowship programs in hospitals, which were
325 severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce
326 caused by COVID-19.

327 (2) For purposes of this section, the following words shall
328 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context requires
329 otherwise:

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

336 (b) "Recipient" means a general acute care hospital in
337 the State of Mississippi which is licensed by the Mississippi
338 State Department of Health.

339 (c) "Residency and fellowship programs" means advanced
340 training programs in medical or surgical specialty areas which are
341 accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
342 Education or a similar accreditation body.

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

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

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

350 (i) Equipment or other supplies necessary for
351 accreditation;

352 (ii) Necessary infrastructure, including building,
353 renovation or construction, for accreditation;

354 (iii) Curricula or other academic or training
355 materials necessary for accreditation;

356 (iv) Stipends for the recruitment, hiring and
357 development of program directors, program coordinators, faculty
358 and/or teaching staff and clinic staff necessary for
359 accreditation; and

360 (v) Remote learning or other classroom technology.

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

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

366 (a) Evidence that the applicant is in the process of
367 preparing for accreditation, has applied for accreditation or has
368 received accreditation for a new residency or fellowship program,
369 or increased capacity in an existing residency or fellowship
370 program;

371 (b) A detailed explanation of the residency or
372 fellowship program the applicant intends to use awarded funds to
373 create or expand, to include:

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

377 (ii) Any relevant waitlist or other information
378 demonstrating high demand for medical school graduates to enter
379 the residency or fellowship program;

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

382 (iv) The budget for the residency or fellowship
383 program, including a plan showing sustainability after
384 accreditation and any required federal approval of the program;
385 and

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

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

391 (d) A plan to provide data on participation and
392 outcomes of the residency or fellowship program, including a plan
393 to report outcomes to the office throughout the funding
394 commitment; and

395 (e) Other relevant information as determined
396 appropriate by the office.

397 (5) Applicants agreeing to commit a portion of their federal
398 COVID-19 relief funds, if they received federal COVID-19 relief
399 funds directly, or other state, federal or private funds as

400 supplemental matching funds to offset the total cost of the
401 approved program shall be prioritized for approval.

402 (6) The office shall:

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

405 (b) Develop regulations and procedures to govern the
406 administration of the grant program;

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

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

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

415 (f) Ensure that every effort be made, in accordance
416 with the priorities in this subsection, to provide funds for the
417 placement of one (1) resident with each recipient before
418 considering awarding funds for the placement of additional
419 residents in the same round of consideration.

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

422 37-153-209. (1) There is established the Mississippi Allied
423 Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program, which shall be
424 directed by the office for the purpose of hiring professionals, or
425 navigators, to provide individual assistance and guidance to

426 students to assist them in many areas, from maneuvering challenges
427 while enrolled in college programs and understanding the job
428 market to working through course challenges, and to help retain
429 and graduate nursing and allied health students, at community and
430 junior colleges. Such navigators must be at least a registered
431 nurse with at least two (2) years of experience in nursing. The
432 grant program shall be funded from monies appropriated by the
433 Legislature for that purpose.

434 (2) The office shall prescribe the terms and conditions of
435 the grant program. To be eligible to receive a grant from the
436 office under the grant program, a community college shall provide
437 the following information:

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

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

443 (c) Any other information that the office determines is
444 necessary.

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

447 37-106-64. (1) There is established the "Skilled Nursing
448 Home and Hospital Nurses Retention Loan Repayment Program" for new
449 nursing graduates to be administered by the Mississippi
450 Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board.

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

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

454 (b) Gained employment within the last year for the
455 first time as a full-time licensed practical nurse or licensed
456 registered nurse at a skilled nursing home in the State of
457 Mississippi or a general acute care hospital in the State of
458 Mississippi that is licensed by the Mississippi State Department
459 of Health;

460 (c) A current relevant Mississippi professional
461 license; and

462 (d) Outstanding qualifying educational loans, received
463 at any point during the recipients postsecondary education career,
464 which may include the principal, interest and related expenses
465 such as the required interest premium on the unpaid balances of
466 government and commercial loans obtained by the recipient for
467 educational expense.

468 (3) Persons who have received funds from state-forgivable
469 loan programs established under Mississippi law, or who are in
470 default or delinquent on any federal, state, local or commercial
471 qualifying educational loan, shall not be eligible for this
472 program.

473 (4) Recipients in the program shall be selected on a
474 first-come, first-served basis from all eligible applicants. The
475 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board
476 shall renew eligible applicants approved in prior years only if

477 the renewal applicant continues to meet the standards set forth in
478 this act, and the renewal applicant has not received full funding
479 provided by this subsection (4).

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

484 (6) A recipient shall not be penalized for ending employment
485 at a skilled nursing home or a licensed general acute care
486 hospital in the State of Mississippi if the recipient begins
487 working for another skilled nursing home or licensed general acute
488 care hospital in the State of Mississippi during the year on which
489 the award is based.

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

492 (8) Awards shall be paid annually, after the expiration of
493 the year of employment for which the award was granted, to the
494 recipient's lender or loan service provider, to be applied to the
495 outstanding balance. Monies paid by the recipient or on the
496 recipient's behalf toward qualifying educational loans before
497 payment of the award shall not be eligible for reimbursement
498 through the program.

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

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

506 (11) The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial
507 Assistance Board, in collaboration with the State Board of Nursing
508 and any other applicable state agency as determined by the
509 Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board,
510 shall attempt to track award recipients under this program through
511 their third employment year, unless the recipient leaves
512 employment at a skilled nursing home or a licensed general acute
513 care hospital in the state at an earlier date. Data collected
514 shall include each recipients' place of employment and any other
515 pertinent information necessary to determine the efficacy of the
516 program in retaining nurses in skilled nursing homes or licensed
517 general acute care hospitals in the State of Mississippi.

518 (12) The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial
519 Assistance Board shall promulgate regulations necessary for the
520 proper administration of this section, including setting a fiscal
521 year policy for the program and application dates and deadlines.

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

523 **SECTION 9.** Section 41-3-16.1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
524 brought forward as follows:

525 41-3-16.1. (1) (a) The State Department of Health
526 (department) shall establish a grant program to be known as the
527 ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program
528 (program) to assist rural water associations and entities in the

529 construction of eligible drinking water infrastructure projects as
530 provided in the Final Rule for the Coronavirus State and Local
531 Fiscal Recovery Funds as established by the federal American
532 Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

533 (b) Rural water associations and any entity that
534 received funding under the ARPA Rural Water Associations
535 Infrastructure Grant Program or the Mississippi Municipality and
536 County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program before April 14,
537 2023, shall be ineligible for additional grants under this
538 section.

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

543 (3) The department shall obligate the funds by the deadline
544 set by the rules and guidelines of the United States Department of
545 the Treasury and will adhere to the Treasury's rules and
546 guidelines for reporting and monitoring projects funded through
547 ARPA.

548 (4) (a) The department shall develop a system for use in
549 ranking the grant applications received. The ranking system shall
550 include the following factors, at a minimum: (a) the
551 environmental impact of the proposed project; (b) the proposed
552 project's ability to address noncompliance with state/federal
553 requirements; (c) the extent to which the project promotes
554 economic development; (d) the number of people served by the

555 project (both new and existing users); (e) impacts of the proposed
556 project on disadvantaged/ overburdened communities; (f) the grant
557 applicant's prior efforts to secure funding to address the
558 proposed project's objectives; (g) the grant applicant's proposed
559 contribution of other funds or in-kind cost-sharing to the
560 proposed project; (h) the grant applicant's long-term plans for
561 the financial and physical operation and maintenance of the
562 project; and (i) the grant applicant's capacity to initiate
563 construction in a timely manner and complete the proposed project
564 by the deadline specified by rules and guidelines of the United
565 States Department of the Treasury for ARPA funds.

566 (b) For the second round of grant awards, the
567 department shall apply a greater weight to grant applications that
568 promote consolidation of separate systems. In order to receive
569 the additional weight, the systems that will consolidate shall be
570 in a proximity of each other as determined by the department.

571 (c) In addition to the points awarded under paragraph
572 (b) of this subsection, an additional ten (10) points shall be
573 added to any application with at least one (1) system that has
574 consolidated after January 1, 2018, and before application to this
575 program and is otherwise eligible under this section.

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

579 (6) (a) Upon the approval of an application for a grant
580 under this section, the department shall enter into a project

581 grant agreement with each grantee to establish the terms of the
582 grant for the project, including the amount of the grant.

583 (b) (i) For the first award of grants, the maximum
584 amount of funds that may be provided to any rural water
585 association or entity from all grants under the program is Two
586 Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00).

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

591 (c) Associations or entities that received funding
592 under the first round of grant awards for this program or received
593 funding in the Mississippi Municipality and County Water
594 Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 are ineligible to receive
595 funding under the second round.

596 (7) The department shall have all powers necessary to
597 implement and administer the program. Of the funds appropriated
598 to the department for the program, not more than five percent (5%)
599 may be used by the department to cover the department's costs of
600 administering the program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

620 (d) "Entity" under this subsection does not include any
621 state agency. No state agency shall be eligible under this
622 program.

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

625 41-9-371. (1) There is established the Mississippi Hospital
626 Sustainability Grant Program which shall be administered by the
627 State Department of Health.

628 (2) In order to strengthen, improve and preserve access to
629 Mississippi hospital care services for all Mississippians and in
630 recognition of the challenges incurred by Mississippi hospitals as
631 a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, funds from the program shall be
632 distributed, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to each

633 hospital licensed by the State of Mississippi, except for
634 hospitals operated by the United States Department of Veterans
635 Affairs and hospitals operated by the State Department of Mental
636 Health. Licensed specialty hospitals that are recognized as such
637 by the State Department of Health, except for those excluded under
638 this subsection, are eligible for grants under the program.

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

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

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

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

654 (d) Each hospital with fewer than two hundred (200)
655 licensed beds with the majority of such beds being dedicated to
656 providing specialty services such as women's health services,
657 long-term acute care, rehabilitation or psychiatric services shall

658 be eligible to receive Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
659 (\$500,000.00).

660 (e) Each rural hospital with fewer than one hundred
661 (100) licensed beds with no emergency department shall be eligible
662 to receive Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) to defray
663 the costs of providing access to hospital care in rural
664 communities.

665 (f) In addition to the funds provided in paragraphs (a)
666 through (e) of this subsection, each small rural hospital with
667 fifty (50) beds or less which operated an emergency department
668 shall be eligible to receive Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
669 (\$250,000.00) to defray the costs of providing access to hospital
670 care in rural communities.

671 (g) In addition to the funds distributed in paragraphs
672 (a) through (c) and (e) through (f) of this subsection, any
673 remaining funds appropriated for the purposes of this grant
674 program shall be distributed to hospitals receiving funds in
675 paragraphs (a) through (c) and (e) through (f) of this subsection
676 on a pro rata amount by dividing the total amount of the remaining
677 funds by the number of licensed beds attributable to all licensed
678 Mississippi hospitals except for licensed beds attributable to
679 hospitals described in paragraph (d) of this subsection and for
680 licensed beds attributable to hospitals operated by the United
681 States Department of Veterans Affairs and hospitals operated by
682 the State Department of Mental Health and determining a dollar

683 amount for each bed, and then multiplying that dollar amount by
684 the number of licensed beds of that hospital.

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

689 (5) The Mississippi Hospital Association shall form a work
690 group to review the delivery of hospital services in Mississippi
691 and shall make recommendations regarding the changes needed to
692 sustain access to hospital care to the Lieutenant Governor,
693 Speaker of the House, Chairmen of the House and Senate Public
694 Health Committees with copies to the Governor and the State Health
695 Officer.

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

698 49-2-131. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
699 as the "Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure
700 Grant Program Act of 2022."

701 (2) There is hereby established within the Mississippi
702 Department of Environmental Quality the Mississippi Municipality
703 and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program under which
704 municipalities, counties and certain public utilities not
705 regulated by the Public Service Commission may apply until
706 February 1, 2023, for reimbursable grants to make necessary
707 investments in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to
708 be funded by the Legislature utilizing Coronavirus State Fiscal

709 Recovery Funds made available under the federal American Rescue
710 Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Such grants shall be made available to
711 municipalities and counties to be matched with the Coronavirus
712 Local Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded or to be awarded to them under
713 ARPA on a one-to-one matching basis. Coronavirus Local Fiscal
714 Recovery Funds that a county transfers to a municipality or that a
715 county or municipality transfers to a public utility not regulated
716 by the Public Service Commission are eligible on a one-to-one
717 matching basis. Municipalities that received less than One
718 Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in the total allocation of
719 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are eligible for a
720 two-to-one match only on the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery
721 Funds awarded or to be awarded to them under ARPA. The
722 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality shall only accept
723 two (2) rounds of submissions under the Mississippi Municipality
724 and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. The second
725 round of submissions shall be the final round. The dollar amount
726 for professional fees that can be allocated as a part of a
727 county's, municipality's or public utility's matching share is not
728 to exceed four percent (4%) of the total project cost.

729 (3) For purposes of this section, unless the context
730 requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings
731 ascribed herein:

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

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

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

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

745 (e) "Department" means the Department of Environmental
746 Quality.

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

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

753 (4) (a) On or before July 1, 2022, the Department of
754 Environmental Quality shall promulgate rules and regulations
755 necessary to administer the MCWI Grant Program prescribed under
756 this section, including application procedures and deadlines. The
757 department is exempt from compliance with the Mississippi
758 Administrative Procedures Law in fulfilling the requirements of
759 this section.

760 (b) The Department of Health shall advise the
761 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality regarding all such
762 rules and regulations as related to the federal Safe Drinking
763 Water Act.

764 (5) Funding under the MCWI Grant Program shall be allocated
765 to projects certified by the Mississippi Department of
766 Environmental Quality as eligible for federal funding, including,
767 but not be limited to, the following:

768 (a) Construction of publicly owned treatment works;

769 (b) Projects pursuant to the implementation of a
770 nonpoint source pollution management program established under the
771 Clean Water Act (CWA);

772 (c) Decentralized wastewater treatment systems that
773 treat municipal wastewater or domestic sewage;

774 (d) Management and treatment of stormwater or
775 subsurface drainage water;

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

777 (f) Development and implementation of a conservation
778 and management plan under the CWA;

779 (g) Watershed projects meeting the criteria set forth
780 in the CWA;

781 (h) Energy consumption reduction for publicly owned
782 treatment works;

783 (i) Reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or
784 subsurface drainage water;

785 (j) Facilities to improve drinking water quality;

786 (k) Transmission and distribution, including
787 improvements of water pressure or prevention of contamination in
788 infrastructure and lead service line replacements;

789 (l) New sources to replace contaminated drinking water
790 or increase drought resilience, including aquifer storage and
791 recovery system for water storage;

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

794 (n) Purchase of water systems and interconnection of
795 systems;

796 (o) New community water systems;

797 (p) Culvert repair, resizing, and removal, replacement
798 of storm sewers, and additional types of stormwater
799 infrastructure;

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

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

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

810 (6) The governing authority of a municipality, county or
811 public utility that is not regulated by the Public Service

812 Commission may submit an application for grant funds under this
813 section if the applicant is an operator-member of Mississippi 811,
814 Inc., as defined in Section 77-13-3. Applicants shall certify to
815 the department that each expenditure of the funds awarded to them
816 under this section is in compliance with ARPA guidelines,
817 guidance, rules, regulations and other criteria, as may be amended
818 from time to time, by the United States Department of the Treasury
819 regarding the use of monies from the State Coronavirus State
820 Fiscal Recovery Funds. Subsequent submissions will be due by the
821 dates established by the department.

822 (7) An application for a grant under this section shall be
823 submitted at such time, be in such form, and contain such
824 information as the department prescribes. Each application for
825 grant funds shall include the following at a minimum: (a)
826 applicant contact information; (b) project description and type of
827 project; (c) project map; (d) estimate of population affected by
828 the project; (e) disadvantaged community criteria (population,
829 median household income, unemployment, current water/sewer rates);
830 (f) estimated project cost; (g) list of match funds of direct
831 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received and to be
832 received from the federal government, a certification that such
833 funds have been or will be used for the project detailed in the
834 application, and documentation of commitment; (h) estimated
835 project schedule and readiness to proceed; (i) engineering
836 services agreement; (j) engineering reports; and (k) information
837 about status of obtaining any required permits.

838 (8) The department must apply a system for use in ranking
839 the grant applications received, unless the Legislature funds all
840 eligible grant requests under the program. When applying the
841 ranking system, the department shall apply a greater weight to
842 projects that have approved engineering/design, plans and permits
843 if the department has deemed the project is ready to begin
844 construction within six (6) months. Projects that are included on
845 the municipal or county engineer's approved list and provide
846 applicable supporting documentation shall receive additional
847 consideration awarded to the application. The ranking system
848 shall include the following factors, at a minimum: (a) the
849 environmental impact of the proposed project; (b) the proposed
850 project's ability to address noncompliance with state/federal
851 requirements; (c) the extent to which the project promotes
852 economic development; (d) the number of people served by the
853 project and the number of communities the project serves; (e)
854 impacts of the proposed project on disadvantaged/overburdened
855 communities; (f) the grant applicant's prior efforts to secure
856 funding to address the proposed project's objectives; (g) the
857 grant applicant's proposed contribution of other funds or in-kind
858 cost-sharing to the proposed project; (h) the grant applicant's
859 long-term plans for the financial and physical operation and
860 maintenance of the project; (i) the grant applicant's capacity to
861 initiate construction in a timely manner and complete the proposed
862 project by the deadline specified by the United States Department
863 of Treasury rules for ARPA funds; (j) the extent to which the

864 project benefits multiple political subdivisions in a regional
865 manner; (k) the project's ability to enhance public service
866 infrastructure, including transportation and emergency access; and
867 (l) any other factors as determined by the department.

868 (9) The grant program shall include a specific emphasis on
869 addressing the needs of an economically disadvantaged community,
870 including providing safe, reliable drinking water in areas that
871 lack infrastructure, providing sewage treatment capacity in
872 unsewered areas and providing regional development of
873 infrastructure to serve multiple communities.

874 (10) Applications shall be reviewed and scored as they are
875 received, unless the Legislature funds all eligible grant requests
876 under the program. The Mississippi Department of Environmental
877 Quality shall certify whether each project submitted is a
878 "necessary investment" in water, wastewater, or stormwater
879 infrastructure as defined in the American Rescue Plan Act and all
880 applicable guidance issued by the United States Department of the
881 Treasury. The Department of Environmental Quality shall review
882 the lists of recommended water infrastructure projects and issue
883 its list of recommended projects to the Mississippi Department of
884 Health for its advice. Grant agreements shall be executed between
885 the recipient and the Mississippi Department of Environmental
886 Quality. All final awards shall be determined at the discretion
887 of the executive director of the department. Any funds awarded to
888 the City of Jackson under this section shall be deposited in the
889 Capital City Water/Sewer Projects Fund of the State Treasury.

890 Funds shall be obligated to a grantee upon the execution of a
891 grant agreement between the department and the approved applicant.
892 Funds shall be made available to a grantee when the department
893 obtains the necessary support for reimbursement. The department
894 is authorized to conduct additional rounds of grants as needed;
895 however, in the first round no more than forty percent (40%) of
896 the total funds appropriated for each grant program may be awarded
897 by the department, and the remaining funds may be awarded in the
898 final round which shall occur no later than six (6) months from
899 the previous round. To ensure equitable treatment between the
900 categories of projects, no less than twenty percent (20%) awarded
901 under this section shall be allocated to each of the three (3)
902 categories of drinking water projects, wastewater projects and
903 stormwater projects. In the final round, any funds not requested
904 may be allocated to any category.

905 (11) Grant funds shall be used prospectively; however, grant
906 funds may be used to reimburse expenses incurred before the
907 enactment of this program if the costs are adequately documented
908 and comply with applicable ARPA guidelines. An applicant must
909 agree to obtain all necessary state and federal permits and follow
910 all state bidding and contracting laws and fiscally sound
911 practices in the administration of the funds.

912 (12) (a) Monies must be disbursed under this section in
913 compliance with the guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations or
914 other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, of the United
915 States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from

916 the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, established by the
917 American Rescue Plan of 2021.

918 (b) The use of funds allocated under this program shall
919 be subject to audit by the United States Department of the
920 Treasury's Office of Inspector General and the Mississippi Office
921 of the State Auditor. Each person receiving funds under these
922 programs found to be fully or partially noncompliant with the
923 requirements in this section shall return to the state all or a
924 portion of the funds received.

925 (13) The department shall submit to the Lieutenant Governor,
926 Speaker of the House, House and Senate Appropriations Chairmen,
927 and the Legislative Budget Office quarterly reports and annual
928 reports that are due by the dates established in the Compliance
929 and Reporting Guidance by the United States Department of
930 Treasury. The reports shall contain the applications received,
931 the score of the applications, the amount of grant funds awarded
932 to each applicant, the amount of grant funds expended by each
933 applicant, and status of each applicant's project. The score of
934 the applications is not required if the award was provided in the
935 final round of grants and the Legislature provided the total
936 amount of funds for all eligible grant requests.

937 (14) Grant funds shall be available under this section
938 through December 31, 2026, or on the date of the fund expenditure
939 deadline provided by the federal government, whichever occurs
940 later. Each grant recipient shall certify for any project for
941 which a grant is awarded that if the project is not completed by

942 December 31, 2026, and the United States Congress does not enact
943 an extension of the deadline on the availability of ARPA funds,
944 then the grant recipient will complete the project through other
945 funds.

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

949 (16) The department shall be exempt from provisions of the
950 Public Procurement Review Board for any requirements of personal
951 or professional service contracts or the pre-approval of the
952 solicitation for such contracts used in the execution of its
953 responsibilities under this section. This subsection shall stand
954 repealed on January 1, 2026.

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

957 **SECTION 12.** (1) The Legislature, based upon current United
958 States Treasury guidance, has determined that all Coronavirus
959 State Fiscal Recovery Funds must be obligated by December 31,
960 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

961 (2) (a) In order to meet the obligation deadline set forth
962 by the United States Treasury, the State Fiscal Officer shall
963 determine the amount of Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds
964 appropriated to various agencies that will not be obligated as of
965 November 1, 2024.

966 (b) In making the determination required by this
967 section, the State Fiscal Officer shall use the guidance released

968 by the United States Treasury to determine if the Coronavirus
969 State Fiscal Recovery Funds are not obligated.

970 (3) If at any time during the period from passage of this
971 act to November 1, 2024, a state agency determines that
972 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds will not be obligated by
973 November 1, 2024, the state agency shall notify the State Fiscal
974 Officer.

975 (4) If at any time the State Fiscal Officer determines that
976 funds will be unobligated as of November 1, 2024, under subsection
977 (2) or (3) of this section, the State Treasurer, in coordination
978 with the State Fiscal Officer, shall transfer these funds to the
979 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No. 682111300) by no
980 later than November 5, 2024. The State Fiscal Officer may retain
981 an amount not to exceed the lesser of the estimated cost of ARPA
982 administration or Twenty Five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) in
983 the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to be utilized for
984 administrative and reporting costs. No later than November 6,
985 2024, the State Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal
986 Officer, shall transfer the funds to the ARPA - MDOT Maintenance
987 Project Fund.

988 **SECTION 13.** There is created in the State Treasury a special
989 fund to be designated as the "ARPA - MDOT Maintenance Project
990 Fund," which shall consist of funds made available by the
991 Legislature in any manner and funds from any other source
992 designated for deposit into such fund. The fund shall be
993 maintained by the State Treasurer as a separate and special fund,

994 separate and apart from the General Fund of the state. Unexpended
995 amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall
996 not lapse into the State General Fund, and any investment earnings
997 or interest earned on amounts in the fund shall be deposited to
998 the credit of the fund. Monies in the fund shall be used by the
999 Department of Transportation for eligible Surface Transportation
1000 maintenance projects included in the Maintenance Program of the
1001 Three-Year Plan as adopted by, amended by, or reissued by the
1002 Mississippi Transportation Commission under the authority of
1003 Section 65-1-141. The Department of Transportation may escalate
1004 its budget upon receiving Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund
1005 and expend such funds in accordance with rules and regulations of
1006 the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner
1007 consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

1008 The Department of Transportation shall determine if a project
1009 is eligible based upon Section 602 of the federal Social Security
1010 Act as added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan
1011 Act of 2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance,
1012 rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or
1013 supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of
1014 the Treasury, including, but not limited to, Federal Register
1015 Volume 88, Issue 181, September 20, 2023, which allows for Surface
1016 Transportation projects.

1017 **SECTION 14.** Upon the effective date of this act, the State
1018 Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal Officer, shall

1019 transfer to the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Fund No.
 1020 6821113000) from the following named funds the following sums:

1021	FUND	FUND NUMBER	AMOUNT
1022	Mississippi Municipal		
1023	and County Water		
1024	Infrastructure Fund	6822147000.....	\$ 28,557,785.00
1025	ARPA-Mississippi		
1026	Independent School		
1027	Infra Grant Fund	6822113400.....	\$ 10,000,000.00
1028	Mississippi Hospital		
1029	Sustainability		
1030	Grant Program Fund	6822130500.....	\$ 36,458,878.00
1031	MDCPS American Rescue		
1032	Plan Act Fund	6822166100.....	\$ 15,607,348.00
1033	Trial Judges-ARPA 2021-		
1034	(CPS) Fund	6822105100.....	\$ 1,500,000.00
1035	MH SB Corona State Fiscal		
1036	Rec Funds ARPA Fund	6822437100.....	\$ 29,384,500.00
1037	MH CO Corona State Fiscal		
1038	Rec Funds ARPA Fund	6822337100.....	\$ 18,057,096.00
1039	Trial Judges-ARPA 2021-		
1040	Temporary Courts Fund	6822105200.....	\$ 1,589,094.00
1041	Mississippi Law Enforcement		
1042	and Fire Fighters		
1043	Premium Pay Fund	6822171100.....	\$ 3,330,000.00
1044	TOTAL.....		\$144,484,701.00

1045 **SECTION 15.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
1046 and after its passage and shall stand repealed on the day before
1047 its passage.

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

1 AD AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-104-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND,
3 FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION
4 27-104-323, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO DIRECT THE STATE FISCAL
5 OFFICER TO TRANSFER TO THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND
6 THE FULL AMOUNT OF ANY INTEREST EARNED ON AMOUNTS IN THE
7 CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND THAT ARE REMAINING IN THE
8 LOCAL FUND ON JULY 1, 2024; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY INTEREST EARNED ON
9 AMOUNTS IN THE CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND AFTER JULY
10 1, 2024, SHALL BE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF THE CORONAVIRUS STATE
11 FISCAL RECOVERY FUND; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER TO
12 TRANSFER TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANY FUNDS IN THE CORONAVIRUS
13 LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND THAT HAVE NOT BEEN USED FOR THE PURPOSE
14 FOR WHICH THEY WERE RECEIVED; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-104-325,
15 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE CORONAVIRUS STATE
16 FISCAL RECOVERY LOST REVENUE FUND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE
17 AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-57, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
18 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE
19 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
20 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-205, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
21 ESTABLISHED THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI NURSING/ALLIED HEALTH GRANT
22 PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD
23 SECTION 37-153-207, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHED
24 THE ACCELERATE MISSISSIPPI PHYSICIAN RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP
25 START-UP GRANT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
26 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-153-209, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
27 ESTABLISHED THE MISSISSIPPI ALLIED HEALTH COLLEGE AND CAREER
28 NAVIGATOR GRANT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
29 BRING FORWARD SECTION 37-106-64, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
30 ESTABLISHED THE SKILLED NURSING HOME AND HOSPITAL NURSES RETENTION
31 LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO
32 BRING FORWARD SECTION 41-3-16.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH
33 ESTABLISHED THE ARPA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT
34 PROGRAM, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD
35 SECTION 41-9-371, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE
36 MISSISSIPPI HOSPITAL SUSTAINABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE
37 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 49-2-131,
38 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATED THE MISSISSIPPI
39 MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM, FOR
40 THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; TO REQUIRE THE STATE FISCAL

41 OFFICER TO TRANSFER CERTAIN FUNDS; TO CREATE THE "ARPA-MDOT
42 MAINTENANCE PROJECT FUND" AS A SPECIAL FUND WITHIN THE STATE
43 TREASURY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNDS BY THE
44 STATE TREASURER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

SS08\HB1706A.1J

Amanda White
Secretary of the Senate