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To: Judiciary A; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 770

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A SPECIAL FUND IN THE STATE TREASURY TO BE  
2 KNOWN AS THE DRUG COURT FUND; TO PRESCRIBE THE USE OF THE FUND; TO  
3 PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND; AND FOR RELATED  
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. (1) There is hereby created a special fund in  
7 the State Treasury to be known as the Drug Court Fund. The fund  
8 shall be equally distributed annually between the five (5)  
9 congressional districts for the purpose of funding drug courts at  
10 the county court level. The Administrative Office of Courts shall  
11 administer the fund. County courts may apply to the  
12 Administrative Office of Courts for funds in order to establish  
13 drug courts.

14 (2) Drug courts shall only handle misdemeanor possession  
15 offenses of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law. The emphasis  
16 of the drug court shall be treatment, rehabilitation and other  
17 alternative adjudication. The county judge shall administer the  
18 drug court.

19 (3) The Drug Court Fund shall be funded by annual  
20 appropriation from the Legislature and may receive funds from  
21 grants, gifts or any other source. Any monies remaining in the  
22 fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the general

23 fund but shall remain in the fund and any interest accruing to the  
24 fund shall remain in the fund.

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
26 and after July 1, 2000.