

By: Senator(s) Stogner, Little

To: Agriculture; Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2734

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 39-23-3 AND 39-23-5, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, AND SECTIONS 20 AND 21, CHAPTER 535, LAWS OF 1997,  
3 AS AMENDED, TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
4 CHILDREN'S MUSEUM ON CERTAIN LAND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE  
5 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE; TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF  
6 CERTAIN BOND PROCEEDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 39-23-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 39-23-3. The Mississippi Children's Museum may be located:

11 (a) At the old National Guard Armory located on the  
12 Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson, Mississippi, after the  
13 repair, renovation, furnishing and equipping of such facility by  
14 the Department of Finance and Administration as provided for in  
15 Sections 16 through 33 of Chapter 535, Laws of 1997, as amended,  
16 or

17 (b) In such structure and at such location as shall be  
18 submitted by the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Children's  
19 Museum, a Mississippi nonprofit corporation, to and approved as an  
20 appropriate structure and location by the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration, after the repair, renovation, furnishing and  
22 equipping of such facility by the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration as provided in Sections 16 through 33, Chapter 353,  
24 Laws of 1997, as amended.

25 (c) On certain real property owned by the State of  
26 Mississippi and held by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture  
27 and Commerce more particularly described as follows:

28           39 acres lying in the northeast corner of the intersection of  
29           Mississippi 25 and Interstate 55.

30           SECTION 2. Section 39-23-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
31 amended as follows:

32           39-23-5. (1) The Department of Finance and Administration  
33 shall proceed with the repair, renovation, furnishing and  
34 equipping of the old National Guard Armory on the Mississippi  
35 State Fairgrounds, or another structure if approved by the  
36 Department of Finance and Administration as provided in Section  
37 39-23-3 for its use as a children's museum as soon as practicable.

38           (2) The Department of Finance and Administration shall  
39 proceed with the construction, furnishing and equipping of a  
40 facility at the location described in Section 39-23-3(c) if the  
41 location at such site is approved by the Board of Directors of the  
42 Mississippi Children's Museum, as soon as practicable.

43           SECTION 3. Section 20, Chapter 535, Laws of 1997, as amended  
44 by Section 137, Chapter 589, Laws of 1999, is amended as follows:

45           Section 20. (1) Upon the receipt of matching funds or  
46 verification that the matching funds described in this subsection  
47 are forthcoming, the Department of Finance and Administration, at  
48 one time or from time to time, may declare by resolution the  
49 necessity for issuance of general obligation bonds of the State of  
50 Mississippi in an amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars  
51 (\$2,000,000.00) to provide funds for the :

52           (a) Repair, renovation, remodeling, equipping,  
53 furnishing, adding to or improving the old National Guard Armory  
54 on the State Fairgrounds in Jackson, Mississippi, or another  
55 structure if approved by the Department of Finance and  
56 Administration as provided in Section 39-23-3, for use as a  
57 children's museum as authorized under Sections 39-23-1 through  
58 39-23-7 and Sections 20 through 33 of this act; or

59           (b) Construction, furnishing and equipping of a  
60 facility at the location described in Section 39-23-3(c).

61 The issuance of the bonds described in this subsection and the  
62 allocation of such funds are conditioned upon the private sector  
63 or local or federal government providing Two Million Dollars  
64 (\$2,000,000.00) to match the funds provided under this section.  
65 The matching funds required pursuant to this subsection may be  
66 provided in the form of cash or in kind contributions or any  
67 combination of cash or in kind contributions. In kind  
68 contributions shall include, but not be limited to, the value of  
69 exhibits that are contributed to the children's museum authorized  
70 under Sections 39-23-1 through 39-23-7 and Sections 20 through 33  
71 of this act.

72 (2) Upon the adoption of a resolution by the Department of  
73 Finance and Administration, declaring the necessity for the  
74 issuance of any part or all of the general obligation bonds  
75 authorized by this section, the department shall deliver a  
76 certified copy of its resolution or resolutions to the State Bond  
77 Commission. Upon receipt of such resolution, the State Bond  
78 Commission, in its discretion, may act as the issuing agent,  
79 prescribe the form of the bonds, advertise for and accept bids,  
80 issue and sell the bonds so authorized to be sold, and do any and  
81 all other things necessary and advisable in connection with the  
82 issuance and sale of such bonds. The amount of bonds issued under  
83 Sections 39-23-1 through 39-23-7 and Sections 20 through 33 of  
84 this act shall not exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

85 SECTION 4. Section 27, Chapter 535, Laws of 1997, as amended  
86 by Section 138, Chapter 589, Laws of 1999, is amended as follows:

87 Section 27. Upon the issuance and sale of bonds under  
88 Sections 39-23-1 through 39-23-7 and Sections 20 through 33 of  
89 this act, the State Bond Commission shall deposit the proceeds of  
90 any such sale or sales in a special fund created in the State  
91 Treasury to be known as the "Mississippi Children's Museum Fund."  
92 The proceeds of such bonds shall be used solely for the purposes  
93 provided in Sections 39-23-1 through 39-23-7 and Sections 20

94 through 33 of this act, including the costs incident to the  
95 issuance and sale of such bonds. The costs incident to the  
96 issuance and sale of such bonds shall be disbursed by warrant upon  
97 requisition of the State Bond Commission, signed by the chairman  
98 of the commission. The remaining monies in the fund shall be  
99 expended solely under the direction of the Department of Finance  
100 and Administration under such restrictions, if any, as may be  
101 contained in the resolution providing for the issuance of the  
102 bonds, and such funds shall be paid by the State Treasurer upon  
103 warrants issued by the Department of Finance and Administration.

104 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
105 and after its passage.