

By: Representative Janus

To: Transportation; Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 111

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 65-39-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 LIMIT THE GAMING COUNTIES STATE-ASSISTED INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TO  
3 PROJECTS LOCATED WITHIN GAMING COUNTIES; TO AMEND SECTION 65-39-3,  
4 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO RESTRICT THE EXPENDITURE OF MONIES IN  
5 THE GAMING COUNTIES BOND SINKING FUND TO THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST  
6 ON AND PRINCIPAL OF BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
7 PROVIDING FUNDS FOR GAMING COUNTIES INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS; AND  
8 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 65-39-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
11 amended as follows:

12 65-39-1. (1) The Mississippi Transportation Commission is  
13 authorized, subject to the availability of funds in the Gaming  
14 Counties State-Assisted Infrastructure Fund created in Section  
15 65-39-17, to conduct feasibility studies and, pursuant to  
16 information gathered in such studies, select routes and locations,  
17 perform preliminary engineering, acquire necessary right-of-way  
18 and property, construct and/or reconstruct and improve existing or  
19 new highways, roads, streets and bridges, including two-lane,  
20 four-lane and multi-lane roads (or segments thereof), perform  
21 intersection improvements, provide signal retiring, turnbay  
22 extensions, additional interchanges and other traffic  
23 modifications, within \* \* \* those counties in this state where  
24 legal gaming is being conducted or is authorized. Any highway,  
25 road, street or bridge that is authorized to be constructed,  
26 reconstructed or improved shall meet design standards established  
27 by the Mississippi Department of Transportation, shall be  
28 constructed to bear a load limit of at least eighty thousand  
29 (80,000) pounds and, upon completion, shall become a part of the  
30 state highway system, and thereafter shall be under the



31 jurisdiction of the Mississippi Transportation Commission and the  
32 Mississippi Department of Transportation for construction and  
33 maintenance.

34 (2) The projects authorized in subsection (1) of this  
35 section shall include, but shall not be limited to, highways,  
36 roads, streets and bridges on and along the following locations:

37 (a) U.S. Highway 90 from its intersection with  
38 Mississippi 607 in Hancock County to Ocean Springs, and including  
39 Lakeshore Road in Hancock County from its intersection with U.S.  
40 Highway 90 to Beach Boulevard;

41 (b) Mississippi 4 from U.S. Highway 61 to Mississippi  
42 3;

43 (c) Mississippi 4 from Mississippi 3 to Senatobia;

44 (d) Lorraine\_Cowan Road from U.S. Highway 90 to I-10;

45 (e) U.S. Highway 49 from U.S. Highway 90 to I-10 in  
46 Gulfport;

47 (f) Mississippi 304 beginning at the Tennessee State  
48 Line at or near U.S. 72 and thence running in a southwesterly  
49 direction to intersect with U.S. 78 at or near Byhalia and thence  
50 running in a westerly direction to intersect I-55 at or near  
51 Hernando and thence running in a westerly direction to intersect  
52 with U.S. 61 in DeSoto County, with a spur extending southwesterly  
53 to or near Robinsonville in Tunica County;

54 (g) I-10 from Exit 28 to Exit 57;

55 (h) A new location from the northernmost point on I-110  
56 to U.S. 49;

57 (i) U.S. Highway 61 from the Tunica County line to the  
58 Tennessee state line;

59 (j) (i) Four-lanes for traffic along Mississippi 16  
60 beginning at its intersection with Mississippi 25 and extending  
61 easterly to join the existing four-lane on the west side of  
62 Carthage within the corporate boundaries;



63                   (ii) Passing lanes and turn lanes, as needed,  
64 along Mississippi 16 beginning at a point on the east side of  
65 Carthage within the corporate boundaries where the existing  
66 four-lane ends and extending easterly to the Leake/Neshoba county  
67 line; and

68                   (iii) Four-lanes for traffic along Mississippi 16  
69 beginning at the Leake/Neshoba county line and extending easterly  
70 to not more than ten (10) miles east of Mississippi 15;

71                   (k) Lorraine\_Cowan Road Extension from I-10 North to  
72 relocated/reconstructed Mississippi 67;

73                   (l) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 82  
74 and Mississippi 1 in the City of Greenville;

75                   (m) At various locations on and along I-20, U.S.  
76 Highway 61 and U.S. Highway 80 in the City of Vicksburg, including  
77 a truck route from Harbor Industrial Park to U.S. Highway 61 north  
78 and an extension of South Frontage Road with railroad bridge to  
79 Interstate Highway 20;

80                   (n) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 61,  
81 U.S. Highway 65 and Washington Street in the City of Natchez;

82                   (o) At various locations on and along U.S. Highway 90  
83 in the City of Pass Christian;

84                   (p) Mississippi 43/603 beginning where the existing  
85 four-lane ends north of I-10 and extending northerly to a point  
86 approximately one (1) mile north of Kiln where Mississippi 43/603  
87 divides into Mississippi 43 and Mississippi 603;

88                   (q) Mississippi 43 beginning where Mississippi 43 and  
89 Mississippi 603 divide and extending northwesterly to or near  
90 Picayune;

91                   (r) U.S. 49 from U.S. 61 west to the Mississippi River  
92 bridge;

93                   (s) Subject to the conditions prescribed in subsection  
94 (3) of this section, a central Harrison County connector from I-10



95 to U.S. 90 in the vicinity of Canal Road to the Mississippi State  
96 Port at Gulfport; and

97 (t) An east Harrison County connector from U.S. 90 to  
98 I-10 to be located between the Cowan-Lorraine Road interchange and  
99 the I-110 interchange.

100 (3) Authorization for the project described in paragraph  
101 (2)(s) of this section is conditioned upon receipt by the  
102 Mississippi Transportation Commission of a written commitment by  
103 the Department of Economic and Community Development to make  
104 available for such project not less than Six Million Dollars  
105 (\$6,000,000.00).

106 (4) All planning, construction, reconstruction and  
107 performance of the projects authorized under this section,  
108 including the letting of contracts, shall commence, proceed and be  
109 performed by the Mississippi Transportation Commission and the  
110 Mississippi Department of Transportation according to priorities  
111 based on volume capacity and traffic congestion in comparative  
112 project areas; however, if a project authorized in this section is  
113 also included in the four-lane highway program under Section  
114 65-3-97, then all contracts necessary to be let for the completion  
115 of the project under this section shall be let not later than the  
116 priorities established for the letting of contracts for the  
117 project under Section 65-3-97.

118 (5) (a) Funds for the projects authorized under this  
119 section may be provided through the issuance of bonds under  
120 Sections 65-39-5 through 65-39-33, through the issuance of notes  
121 for such purposes under Section 31-17-127 or from such monies as  
122 may be available in the Gaming Counties State-Assisted  
123 Infrastructure Fund created under Section 65-39-17.

124 (b) In addition to the funds provided for under  
125 paragraph (a) of this subsection, funds for the project described  
126 in subsection (2)(s) of this section also may be provided from any



127 available federal, state, county or municipal funds authorized for  
128 such project, including the Economic Development Highway Act.

129 **SECTION 2.** Section 65-39-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
130 amended as follows:

131 65-39-3. There is created in the State Treasury a special  
132 fund to be designated as the "Gaming Counties Bond Sinking Fund."  
133 From and after July 1, 2002, such monies as the Legislature  
134 directs or provides to be deposited into the fund may be expended,  
135 upon legislative appropriation, only to pay the interest on and  
136 principal of bonds issued pursuant to Sections 65-39-5 through  
137 65-39-33 or to pay the interest on and principal of notes issued  
138 under Section 31-17-127 for the purpose of providing funds for  
139 infrastructure projects under Section 65-39-1 \* \* \*. Unexpended  
140 amounts remaining in the sinking fund at the end of the fiscal  
141 year shall not lapse into the State General Fund, and any interest  
142 earned on amounts in the sinking fund shall be deposited to the  
143 credit of the sinking fund.

144 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
145 and after July 1, 2002.

