

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott

To: Ports and Marine
ResourcesCOMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2834

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE
3 RESOURCES FROM THE PUBLIC TRUST TIDELANDS FUND THAT ARE DESIGNATED
4 IN LINE ITEMS OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL FOR MANAGEMENT PROJECTS OR
5 PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECTS SHALL NOT BE PAID UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT OF
6 MARINE RESOURCES RECEIVES WRITTEN VERIFICATION OF THE WORK
7 COMPLETED; TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF TIDELAND FUNDS USED FOR
8 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 29-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 29-15-9. (1) There is * * * created in the State Treasury a
13 special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Fund."
14 The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State as
15 trustee.

16 (2) Any funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and
17 submerged lands, except those funds derived from mineral leases,
18 or funds previously specifically designated to be applied to other
19 agencies, shall be transferred to the special fund. Not more than
20 five percent (5%) of the funds derived from lease rentals may be
21 used to cover the administrative cost incurred by the Secretary of
22 State. Any remaining funds derived from lease rentals shall be
23 disbursed pro rata to the local taxing authorities for the
24 replacement of lost ad valorem taxes, if any. Then, any remaining
25 funds shall be disbursed to the commission for new and extra
26 programs of tidelands management, such as conservation,
27 reclamation, preservation, acquisition, education or the
28 enhancement of public access to the public trust tidelands or
29 public improvement projects as they relate to those lands.



30 (3) Any funds that are appropriated as separate line items
31 in an appropriation bill for tideland programs or projects
32 authorized under this section for political subdivisions or other
33 agencies shall be disbursed as provided in this subsection.

34 (a) The Department of Marine Resources shall make
35 progress payments in installments based on the work completed and
36 material used in the performance of a tidelands project only after
37 receiving written verification from the political subdivision or
38 agency. The political subdivision or agency shall submit
39 verification of the work completed or materials in such detail and
40 form that the department may require.

41 (b) The Department of Marine Resources shall make funds
42 available for the purpose of using such funds as a match or
43 leverage for federal or other funds that are available for the
44 designated tidelands project.

45 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
46 and after its passage.

