

By: Representatives Pierce, Eaton, Gadd,  
Ward

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 789

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "RURAL COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE GRANT  
2 FUND," WHICH SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT  
3 AUTHORITY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
4 SHALL ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING  
5 GRANTS FROM THE FUND TO COUNTIES WITH A POPULATION OF NOT MORE  
6 THAN 15,000 TO ASSIST SUCH COUNTIES IN PROVIDING FOR AMBULANCE  
7 SERVICE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE GRANT FUND WILL CONSIST OF FUNDS  
8 APPROPRIATED BY THE LEGISLATURE FROM THE HEALTH CARE EXPENDABLE  
9 FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** As used in this act, the following words shall  
12 have the meanings ascribed in this section unless the context  
13 clearly requires otherwise:

14 (a) "Authority" means the Mississippi Development  
15 Authority.

16 (b) "Fund" means the Rural County Ambulance Service  
17 Grant Fund.

18 (c) "Rural county" means a county that has a population  
19 of not more than twenty thousand (20,000), according to the most  
20 recent federal decennial census.

21 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is created a special fund in the State  
22 Treasury to be designated the "Rural County Ambulance Service  
23 Grant Fund," which shall be administered by the authority. The  
24 authority shall establish and implement a program for the purpose  
25 of making grants from the fund to rural counties, which shall be  
26 used to supplement existing county funds for providing for  
27 ambulance service. The fund shall consist of funds appropriated  
28 by the Legislature from the Health Care Expendable Fund  
29 established under Section 43-13-407. Unexpended amounts remaining  
30 in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the



31 State General Fund. Any interest earned or investment earnings on  
32 amounts in the fund shall be deposited into the fund.

33 (2) The authority shall have all powers necessary to  
34 implement and administer the program provided for in this section,  
35 and the authority shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary  
36 for the implementation and administration of the program.

37 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
38 and after July 1, 2003.

