

By: Representative Brown

To: Sel Cmte on Hurricane  
Recovery

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1340

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRACKING OF CERTAIN FEDERAL GRANT  
2 FUNDS THAT ARE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI FOR  
3 ASSISTANCE TO HOMEOWNERS WHOSE HOMES WERE DAMAGED OR DESTROYED BY  
4 HURRICANE KATRINA; TO DIRECT THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
5 TO OBTAIN AND COMPILE IN A DATABASE THE CERTAIN INFORMATION FOR  
6 EACH ASSISTANCE GRANT MADE TO A HOMEOWNER WHOSE HOME WAS DAMAGED  
7 OR DESTROYED BY HURRICANE KATRINA; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI  
8 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY SHALL POST ON ITS WEB SITE ON A MONTHLY  
9 BASIS CERTAIN INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ASSISTANCE GRANTS; AND  
10 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) The purpose of this section is to provide a  
13 method for tracking Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds  
14 that are to be provided to the State of Mississippi under the  
15 Fiscal Year 2006 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (H.R.  
16 2863) for assistance to homeowners whose homes were damaged or  
17 destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. With this information obtained  
18 under this section, public officials will be better able to  
19 determine if those grant funds are being provided to the most  
20 affected areas and if the grant funds are being distributed  
21 equitably.

22 (2) The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) shall obtain  
23 and compile in a database the following information for each grant  
24 of CDBG funds to a homeowner whose home was damaged or destroyed  
25 by Hurricane Katrina:

26 (a) The address of the house to be repaired or rebuilt  
27 with the grant;

28 (b) The amount of the grant disbursed by address; and

29 (c) The use of the grant (repair or rebuild) by  
30 address.

31           (3) From the information compiled under subsection (2), the  
32 MDA shall post the following information by supervisors district  
33 on its Web site on a monthly basis:

34                 (a) The number of grant recipients; and

35                 (b) The total number and amount of grants disbursed.

36           (4) The MDA may provide the information compiled under  
37 subsection (2) to the Mississippi Automated Resource Information  
38 System (MARIS) or other appropriate agencies or entities with  
39 mapping capability in order to track the distribution of grant  
40 funds by supervisors district; however, no other personal  
41 information pertaining to a grant recipient may be posted on MDA's  
42 Web site or divulged by MDA to any person, agency or entity,  
43 including the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the  
44 Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. Any information obtained  
45 by MDA with regard to CDBG funds provided to a homeowner, other  
46 than the information specified in subsection (2), shall be exempt  
47 from the Mississippi Public Records Act, Section 25-61-1 et seq.

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