

By: Representatives Read, Arnold, Turner,  
Hale, Stamps

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1538  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE  
2 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE ARPA RURAL  
3 WATER ASSOCIATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER  
4 HOUSE BILL NO. 1421, 2022 REGULAR SESSION, FOR THE PERIOD  
5 BEGINNING ON THE PASSAGE OF THIS ACT THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be  
8 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus  
9 State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
10 State Department of Health for the purpose of funding the ARPA  
11 Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program established  
12 under House Bill No. 1421, 2022 Regular Session, for the period  
13 beginning upon the passage of this act and ending  
14 June 30, 2023.....\$ 300,000,000.00.

15 **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section and Section 3 of  
16 this act, the term "department" means the State Department of  
17 Health.

18 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds appropriated  
19 under this act to any recipient without first: (a) making an



20 individualized determination that the reimbursement sought is, in  
21 the department's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures  
22 eligible under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as  
23 added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of  
24 2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance, rules,  
25 regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or  
26 supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of  
27 the Treasury; and (b) determining that the recipient has not  
28 received and will not receive reimbursement for the expense in  
29 question from any source of funds, including insurance proceeds,  
30 other than those funds provided under Section 602 of the federal  
31 Social Security Act as added by Section 9901 of ARPA. In  
32 addition, the department shall ensure that all funds appropriated  
33 under this act are disbursed in compliance with the Single Audit  
34 Act (31 USC Sections 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the  
35 Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Section 200.303 regarding internal  
36 controls, Sections 200.330 through 200.332 regarding sub-recipient  
37 monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit  
38 requirements.

39       **SECTION 3.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending  
40 the funds appropriated to the department under this act, the  
41 department shall certify to the Department of Finance and  
42 Administration that each expenditure of the funds appropriated to  
43 the department under this act complies with the guidelines,  
44 guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be



45 amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the  
46 Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State  
47 Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the American Rescue Plan Act  
48 of 2021.

49 (2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States  
50 Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of  
51 any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies  
52 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the  
53 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (a) determines that the  
54 department or recipient has expended or otherwise used any of the  
55 funds appropriated to the department under this act for any  
56 purpose that is not in compliance with the guidelines, guidance,  
57 rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended from  
58 time to time, of the United States Department of the Treasury  
59 regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal  
60 Recovery Fund established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,  
61 and (b) the State of Mississippi is required to repay the federal  
62 government for any of those funds that the Office of the Inspector  
63 General determined were expended or otherwise used improperly by  
64 the department or recipient, then the department or recipient that  
65 expended or otherwise used those funds improperly shall be  
66 required to pay the amount of those funds to the State of  
67 Mississippi for repayment to the federal government.

68 **SECTION 4.** None of the funds appropriated by this act shall  
69 be used to pay employee premium payments.



70           **SECTION 5.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid  
71 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the Coronavirus State  
72 Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants  
73 issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer  
74 shall issue his or her warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
75 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

76           **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
77 and after its passage.

