

Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Mississippi

H.R.1865 – Consolidated Domestic and International Assistance Bill

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, 2020

- **Additional Disaster Assistance** – \$1.5 billion to assist agriculture producers affected by natural disasters in 2018 and 2019, watermelon producers for losses due to Tropical Storm Cindy in 2017, and blueberry producers affected by freeze or excessive moisture in 2017, 2018, or 2019.
 - Mississippi producers in the South Mississippi Delta alone suffered more than \$800 million in damages due to catastrophic flooding in 2019.
- **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)** – \$9 million for cervid health activities conducted by USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Not less than \$5 million of those funds are for APHIS to allocate funds directly to state departments of wildlife and state departments of agriculture to further develop and implement CWD surveillance, testing, management, and response activities.
 - Hyde-Smith in February introduced the DEER Act ([S.613](#)) to combat the growing threat of CWD in Mississippi. These funds will be used for the purposes outlined in S.613.
- **Center for Pollinator Health** – \$5 million, \$2 million above FY2019 enacted level, to expand new pollinator research activities carried out at the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) facility in Stoneville.
- **Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations** – \$175 million, \$25 million above FY2019 enacted, to assist states in preventing erosion, flooding, and sediment damages in small watersheds.
- **ARS Extramural Research** – Continues funding for ARS research projects involving Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, and other state institutions.
- **Catfish Disaster Assistance** – Language directing USDA to amend its regulations for the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) to ensure that catfish producers are eligible for losses due to cormorants and other fish-eating birds.
- **Farm Service Agency (FSA) Offices** – Language preventing the closure of any FSA county offices or the permanent relocation of county-based employees that would result in an office with two or fewer employees.
- **Community Facilities Guaranteed Loans** -- \$500 million for Community Facilities Guaranteed loans, providing sufficient funding to trigger Hyde-Smith provision in the 2018 Farm Bill that would provide credit to rural hospitals in communities with up to 50,000 residents.

Energy and Water Development, 2020

- **Authorized U.S. Corps of Engineers Projects** – \$76.5 million for 25 authorized flood control, navigation, and related projects and activities in Mississippi.
 - \$20.3 million for operation, maintenance, and recreation at Mississippi’s flood control reservoirs – Arkabutla, Enid, Grenada, and Sardis Lakes.
 - \$39.1 million for operation, maintenance, and wildlife mitigation activities on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.
 - \$10.1 million for dredging operations at Mississippi’s ports in Gulfport, Pascagoula, Vicksburg, Greenville and Rosedale.
- **Mississippi River Levee** – \$24.9 million for construction, operation and maintenance on the mainline Mississippi River levee.
- **Mississippi River Channel Deepening** – \$377.6 million to establish a multi-year dredging demonstration program to minimize disruptions to critical navigation requirements in lower portions of the Mississippi River channel to the Gulf of Mexico, and to reduce the need for operation of the Bonnet Carré Spillway during high water events.
- **Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) Projects** – \$375 million, \$7 million above FY2019 enacted, for authorized flood control, navigation, and dredging MR&T projects.
 - Language allowing the Corps to use these funds conduct work on remaining unconstructed features of authorized projects impacted by recent natural disasters, such as the Yazoo Backwater Area Pump Project.
 - Language directing the use of MR&T funds to dredge Mississippi River ports to authorized depths, such as Mississippi ports in Rosedale, Greenville, and Vicksburg.
- **Environmental Infrastructure** – \$100 million, \$23 million above FY2019 enacted, to assist states and local municipalities upgrade their water and wastewater systems.
- **Research and Development** – \$27 million for research and development, most of which takes place at ERDC in Vicksburg.
- **Delta Regional Authority (DRA)** – \$30 million for DRA, including \$15 million for flood control, basic public infrastructure development, and transportation improvements.
- **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)** – \$175 million for ARC, including not less than \$16 million for a program of industrial site and workforce development in Southern and South Central Appalachia and up to \$13.5 million for Southern Appalachia.

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, 2020

- **Gulf of Mexico Water and Aquatic Habitat Quality** – \$17.5 million for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Gulf of Mexico Program to address water quality and hypoxia problems in the Gulf.
- **Forest Products Laboratory** – \$1.0 million in U.S. Forest Service funding to support the Forest Products Laboratory to advance ongoing research work and collaborative partnerships for innovative research on commercialization of wood and fiber biomass.
- **Coastal Conservation** – \$12.5 million for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, \$1.0 million of which will support conservation on the Gulf Coast.

- **U.S. Geological Survey Aquifer Study** – \$6 million for the U.S. Geological Service aquifer research, including language regarding the Mississippi Embayment Aquifer Study.
- **National Park Service Historic Preservation** – \$21.9 million for historic Civil Rights sites.
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Ammunition Regulation** – The bill continues a provision prohibiting EPA from regulating certain types of ammunition and fishing tackle.

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, 2020

- **Rural Workforce Training Initiative** – \$30 million to provide workforce training assistance for individuals who have lost jobs in the Appalachian and Delta regions. This year, Mississippi received funding for three programs in Batesville, Water Valley, and Raymond.
- **Strengthening Community Colleges Initiative** – \$40 million for a new initiative to better align workforce development needs for in-demand industries with post-secondary education.
- **Job Corps** – Significant investments to support Job Corps, the nation’s largest career technical training and education program for at-risk youth. Includes instruction to continue to comply with Senate directive on rebuilding the Gulfport Job Corps Center.
- **Promise Neighborhoods** – \$80 million and extension language for Promise Neighborhood programs, which will benefit educational programs in Sunflower and Washington Counties.
- **Career and Technical Education** – \$20 million of increased funding to support specialized skills and technical training for students who wish to enter the workforce.
- **Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program** – increased funding to better the academic performance and high school graduation rates and to prepare students to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. This year, Mississippi was awarded a grant to benefit students in the Greenville, McComb, and Meridian public school districts.
- **Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Master’s Program** – \$10 million to provide support for HBCU making substantial contributions to graduate education opportunities in STEM related disciplines. Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley University benefit from this program.

Legislative Branch, 2020 *(Hyde-Smith, Senate subcommittee chairman)*

- **Member Pay Freeze** – The bill continues a provision to freeze the pay of Members of Congress, preventing any pay increases in FY2020 as advocated by some in the House of Representatives. A freeze on Members’ salaries has been in place since 2009.
- **Rejects DACA Provisions** – The bill rejects House language that would allow congressional offices to hire individuals in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program.
- **Surplus Books Program** – Ensures adequate funding for the Surplus Books Program, which benefits Mississippi schools and nonprofit organizations.

- **Stennis Center for Public Service** – maintains funding for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service, based in Starkville.

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, 2020

- **VA Medical Care** – \$81 billion to support and improve delivery of medical treatment and healthcare services to veterans and their dependents. These resources provide healthcare, benefits, and memorial services earned by U.S. servicemembers and veterans.
- **Military Installations** – \$11.3 billion for 150 projects to construct and renovate facilities to support the warfighter and military families, including \$16.8 million for a fuel facilities replacement project at Columbus Air Force Base and \$8.1 million for an automated multipurpose machine gun range at Camp Shelby.
- **Military Family Housing** – \$1.4 billion for construction, operation and maintenance of military family housing and additional oversight and management of privatized housing contractors to address the recent reports of mismanagement and neglect.
- **Armed Forces Retirement Home** – \$75.3 million for the Armed Forces Retirement Home, which operates facilities in Gulfport and Washington, D.C.

State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, 2020

- **Foreign Military Financing Program, Israel** – \$3.3 billion for military aid for Israel.
- **Countering Chinese Influence Fund** – \$300 million to combat malign Chinese influence activities and increase transparency and accountability associated with the Belt and Road Initiative.
- **Countering Russian Influence Fund** – \$290 million.
- **Promotes International Religious Freedom** – Provides funds for programs to promote international religious freedom, including \$8.5 for the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom and \$4.5 million for the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.
- **Safeguarding the Right to Life** – The bill supports important policy provisions to ensure the respect for life around the globe. The bill: maintains the Mexico City Policy, prohibiting U.S. assistance to foreign nongovernmental organizations that promote or perform abortions; maintains the “Helms Amendment,” banning the use of foreign aid funding for abortions; ensures family planning programs funded through this bill are voluntary; and prohibits funding of organizations the President determines to support coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, 2020

- **Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)** – \$12 million for the FAA UAS Center of Excellence led by Mississippi State University.
- **FAA Contract Towers** – \$170 million to fully fund FAA Contract Towers program, which affects facilities at the Golden Triangle Regional, Greenville Municipal, Hawkins Field (Jackson), Olive Branch, Stennis International Airport, and Tupelo Regional airports.

- **Essential Air Service (EAS)** – \$162 million for the EAS program, which will benefit four Mississippi airports: Greenville, Hattiesburg/Laurel, Meridian, and Tupelo.
- **Aviation Workforce Development Program** – \$10 million in new funding to address the shortage of trained pilots and aviation technicians.
- **Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants** – \$1 billion to repair, rebuild, and revitalize significant infrastructure projects across the country. This year, Mississippi received \$33.1 million for road improvements.

Extenders

- **NASA Enhanced Use Lease** – Extends by two years Enhanced Use Leasing authority for NASA Centers to lease non-excess underutilized property to industry, state/local government, and academic partners, and to use the proceeds for capital improvement projects. This provision in the NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act ([S.2909](#)) introduced by Senator Roger Wicker and cosponsored by Hyde-Smith. NASA Stennis Space Center, also known as the “The Federal City,” utilizes this authority as an economic development tool to improve facilities and mission effectiveness, build partnerships with private and public sector entities, and create more jobs.
- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** – Extends NFIP authorization to Sept. 30, 2020. Hyde-Smith is a lead cosponsor of the National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization and Reform Act or NFIP-RE Act ([S.2187](#)), a five-year reauthorization of NFIP with more than 40 comprehensive reforms to improve coverage and address the waste, fraud, and mismanagement that inhibits service to policyholders.
- **Generic Insulin** – Includes a provision to stream line the transition of biological products, which would force the FDA to incentivize more completion in the insulin market. This provision follows the Affordable Insulin Approvals Now Act ([S.2103](#)), which Hyde-Smith cosponsored to make insulin costs more affordable by expediting federal approvals of lower-cost, generic, and “follow-on” insulin products.