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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** **SB 2527**  
**DATE:** 4/5/01  
**CC:** FILE

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## **SB 2527**

SB 2527 creates the Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Fund, a special fund into which any state funds designated for such are to be deposited. Any year-end balance is to remain in the fund and interest earned on the fund is to be credited to the fund. MDOT is to expend monies in the fund for improvements of airports, ports, railroads and transit systems in Mississippi. SB 2527 also creates the Multi-Modal Fund Committee and a committee for each mode of transportation to receive and approve applications for multi-modal funds. 38% of the funds are allocated to ports, 34% to airports, 16% to transit systems, and 12% to railroads, with the remaining 5% distributed among the various modes by MDOT based on criteria. SB 2527 requires 30% of the funds allocated to transit systems to be distributed to the Coast Transit Authority and 30% to the City of Jackson Transit Authority. In order to receive any of these multi-modal funds, airports, ports, railroads and transit systems must fund, from private or public sources, not more than 10% of the total cost of the project.

SB 2527 also creates an 8-member Joint Legislative Multi-Modal Fund Committee to have oversight of the administration of this multi-modal act. MDOT must submit an annual report to the oversight committee regarding the administration of the fund and the state's multi-modal systems.

Senator Bryan tried to amend the bill to have a certain percentage distributed to the national rail system. Francis Lundy responded that work group adhered to the precedent set by last year's bill, which died, of providing funds to public railroads. Senator Hewes assured Senator Bryan that the workgroup consisted of representative of the various modes of transportation and that they had worked very hard over the summer to improve last year's bill.

House members stated that 2527 was a good economic development bill because it will entice communities to improve their multi-modal transportation systems by offering funding for improvements. There were no funds appropriated to this fund for FY 02.