- 1 SB1
- 2 216487-4
- 3 By Senator Albritton
- 4 RFD: Finance and Taxation General Fund
- 5 First Read: 19-JAN-22

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4 <u>ENROLLED</u>, An Act,

To make supplemental appropriations from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Revenue Replacement Fund, and the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. In addition to all other appropriations heretofore or hereafter made, there is hereby appropriated \$443,343,362.50 in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Department of Finance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, to be used to as follows:

- (1) Up to \$80,000,000 to be used to support the delivery of health care and related services to citizens of Alabama related to the pandemic by and through reimbursement of eligible expenses. These funds may be delegated through memoranda of agreement to the Alabama Hospital Association and the Alabama Nursing Home Association.
- (2) Up to \$51,000,000 to be used to support the improvement and expansion of broadband network access to the

citizens of Alabama. These funds may be delegated through memoranda of agreement to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' Alabama Digital Expansion Division.

- (3) Up to \$225,000,000 shall be used to improve access to clean water to the citizens of Alabama through investments in water and sewer infrastructure projects. These funds may be delegated through memoranda of agreement to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The Department of Environmental Management shall utilize the funds to implement the following programs:
- a. Up to \$120,000,000 shall be provided as grants to water and sewer systems for emergency or high need projects previously identified for participation in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund or the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The high need and emergency projects shall be selected based on a ranking system established by the Department of Environmental Management that provides additional weight for projects that facilitate or improve access to water or sewer services in communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 or lack local funding to complete the project.
- b. Up to \$100,000,000 shall be provided as matching grants to public water and sewer systems for water or sewer infrastructure projects. The Department of Environmental Management shall establish matching requirements for grant recipients with consideration for ability to pay. Matching

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funds may be provided from Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery
Funds, in-kind contributions, or any other source of funds
made available for this purpose.

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- c. Up to \$5,000,000 shall be provided as grants to install clustered decentralized wastewater system demonstrations utilizations utilizing a collection system known as Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) or other demonstration systems in the Alabama Black Belt areas of low population density, rural poverty, and/or soils with poor perc characteristics, where there is a finding of discharge of raw sewage onto the ground due to the utilization of straight pipes, failing septic systems, or similar circumstances.
 - (4) Up to \$79,500,000 shall be allocated to the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, with the intent to reduce rates on businesses in 2022. This contribution also returns the balance in the fund to a balance close to January 27, 2020.
 - (5) Up to \$7,843,362.50 for reimbursement of costs for the administration, auditing, and reporting requirements of the state and local fiscal recovery funds.

Section 2. In addition to all other appropriations heretofore or hereafter made, there is hereby appropriated \$136,796,346 in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Revenue Replacement Fund to the Department of Finance for the fiscal year ending

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September 30, 2022, which may delegate these funds through memoranda of agreement to be used as follows:

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- (1) Up to \$34,000,000 to be used to support the improvement and expansion of broadband network access to the citizens of Alabama. These funds may be delegated through memoranda of agreement to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' Alabama Digital Expansion Division.
- (2) Up to \$5,000,000 shall be used to facilitate the expansion and use of telemedicine. The Department of Finance may delegate these funds through memorandum of agreement to the Alabama Department of Public Health, or any other health care association or health care provider.
- (3) Up to \$36,796,346 to be used to support the delivery of health care and related services to citizens of Alabama related to the coronavirus pandemic, including through assisted living facilities. These funds may be delegated through memoranda of agreement with the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, or any other state entity of competent jurisdiction, health care association or health care provider.
- (4) Up to \$30,000,000 for assistance to rural hospitals. For the purposes of this appropriation, a rural hospital is one so designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration. Funds shall be allocated as grants to

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eligible hospitals based on the number of beds reflected on the Certificate of Need held by each hospital.

- (5) Up to \$20,000,000 for assistance to emergency response providers, including ambulance/EMS service providers, rescue squad organizations, volunteer fire departments, and 911 boards. These funds shall be allocated as follows:
 - a. Volunteer fire departments \$10,000,000
 - b. Other emergency response providers \$10,000,000
- (6) Up to \$11,000,000 for reimbursements of expenses of state inmates housed in county jails from March 3, 2021, to December 31, 2021.

Section 3. In addition to all other appropriations heretofore or hereafter made, there is hereby appropriated \$191,887,857 in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to the Department of Finance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, to be used for the delivery of broadband and related services to citizens of Alabama related to the coronavirus pandemic and to enable investment in capital assets providing necessary technology infrastructure for work, education, and access to critical services. These funds may be delegated by the Department of Finance through memoranda of agreement to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' Alabama Digital Expansion Division.

Section 4. (a) Any amount of the funds appropriated in this act remaining unexpended on September 30, 2022, shall be reappropriated for the same purposes for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022, and for all fiscal years thereafter extending through December 31, 2026.

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- any of the categories listed above needs to be adjusted for the utilization of available funds or if the uses above are deemed ineligible uses of the federal funds by the United States Congress, the United States Department of the Treasury, or any other federal entity of competent jurisdiction, the Director of Finance shall obtain majority approval by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the chair of each budget committee of the Legislature to re-allocate funds among the categories listed above prior to any such reallocation.
- (c) To ensure the state complies with all requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act, any delegate or subrecipient of any of the funds appropriated in this act shall provide all information requested by the Department of Finance in a complete and timely manner.

Section 5. (a) There is hereby created a Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on American Rescue Plan Act

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1 State Funds, hereinafter referred to as the committee. The committee shall consist of the Chair of the House Ways and Means - General Fund Committee; the Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation - General Fund Committee; three members of the House Ways and Means - General Fund Committee appointed by the chair of the committee, including the ranking minority member of the committee, or his or her designee; and three members of the Senate Finance and Taxation - General Fund Committee appointed by the chair of the committee, including the ranking minority member of the committee, or his or her designee; the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; the Minority Leader of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or his or her other designee; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his or her designee; a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker; and a member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore 17 of the Senate. The Chair of the House Ways and Means - General Fund Committee and the Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation - General Fund Committee shall be co-chairs of the oversight committee. The committee shall hold its organizational meeting within 30 days following the effective 22 date of this act and shall meet at the call of the co-chairs thereafter.

> (b) The co-chairs of the oversight committee, on behalf of the oversight committee, shall have authority to

request and receive reports from the Department of Finance and to request and receive supplemental information or data from the Department of Finance or any other administering agency or entity related to the implementation of the programs funded in this act and any other act appropriating Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds or Coronavirus Capital Projects Funds, including as to the related memoranda of agreement, and to conduct hearings and receive testimony therein related to the implementation of the aforesaid programs.

Section 6. The Department of Finance shall provide a copy of all expenditure reports required to be filed with the Department of the Treasury regarding the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds and the Coronavirus Capital Projects Funds to the Legislature within five days of filing the report. The report may be delivered electronically to the Legislative Fiscal Officer for distribution.

Section 7. This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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4	President and Presiding Officer of the Senate
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6	Speaker of the House of Representatives
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	SB1 Senate 25-JAN-22 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate. Patrick Harris, Secretary.
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16 17 18	House of Representatives Passed: 27-JAN-22
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20 21	By: Senator Albritton