

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
IN SENATE,
January 14, 1963.

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1962.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation is a state agency created by Act 339 of the Mississippi Legislature in 1956. It is the largest and most complex of the state's agencies, with a budget of approximately \$100 million and a staff of about 25,000 persons. Its primary responsibility is to provide a safe, efficient, and adequate system of transportation for the state and to develop and improve the transportation facilities of the state.

The Department's major responsibilities are to plan, construct, maintain, and operate the state highway system, to operate the state's airports, to provide ferry service, and to provide technical assistance to local governments in the development of their transportation systems. The Department also has the responsibility of providing for the safety of the state's transportation system.

The Department's operations are divided into four main areas: Highway Construction, Highway Maintenance, Airports, and Ferry Service. Highway construction is the largest part of the Department's budget, accounting for approximately 45 percent of the total. Highway maintenance and operations account for about 35 percent, airports for about 15 percent, and ferry service for about 5 percent.

The Department's operations are financed primarily through state funds. The state contributes about 60 percent of the total cost of the Department's operations. The remainder is provided by federal grants and other sources. The Department's revenue is primarily derived from the sale of bonds, which are used to finance its capital construction program.

The Department's operations are supervised by the Board of Transportation, which is composed of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Board is responsible for the overall policy and direction of the Department. The Board is assisted by the Department's Commission, which is composed of members appointed by the Governor and the Board.

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