

HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS CAMPAIGN



The Mississippi Small Business and Grocer Investment Act (H.B. 1328):

- recognizes the need to increase access to affordable, healthy food in underserved communities
- is designed to provide grants, loans and other incentives to increase economic development investments
- can help improve community health outcomes, revitalize communities and create jobs
- supports Mississippi farmers

There are

659

qualifying **HFFI** census tracts in 72 counties in Mississippi.

HFFI CENSUS TRACT:

Area where residents have limited access to affordable, healthy food.



35%

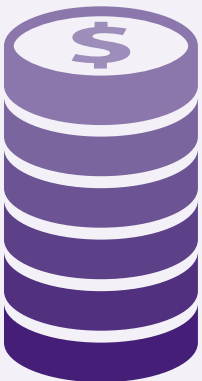
of adults in Mississippi are considered obese—the **THIRD** highest rate in the United States.



A recent study by the **Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development at Mississippi State University** found that HFFI Tracts in Mississippi are characterized by lower educational attainment levels, higher unemployment rates, lower income, and higher poverty.

Research links these characteristics to poor nutrition, higher levels of obesity and obesity-related healthcare costs.

An HFFI pilot project in Mississippi could generate:



The economic cost of obesity includes healthcare costs and decreased productivity, lost time, and absenteeism at work.



MORE THAN 500 full-time equivalent construction jobs



NEARLY 250 ongoing full-time equivalent jobs



MORE THAN \$12 MILLION total economic impact for a 45,000 sq. ft. supermarket in Lowndes County



MORE THAN \$1 MILLION in combined sales, personal income and corporate taxes from ongoing operations