

By: Representatives Watson, Stevens,  
Bourdeaux, Bowles, Coleman (29th), Denny,  
Perry

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1625  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE FOR THE  
3 FISCAL YEAR 2000.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special  
7 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi  
8 Department of Insurance which is comprised of special source funds  
9 collected by or otherwise available to the department, for the  
10 purpose of defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal  
11 year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000..... \$

12 SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
13 Section 1 not more than the amounts set forth below shall be  
14 expended for the respective major objects or purposes of  
15 expenditure:

16 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

17 Personal Services:

18	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits..	\$	4,460,928.00
19	Travel and Subsistence.....		346,277.00
20	Contractual Services.....		1,534,049.00
21	Commodities.....		194,398.00

22 Capital Outlay:

23	Other Than Equipment.....		0.00
24	Equipment.....		141,538.00
25	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....		<u>0.00</u>

26 Total..... \$ 6,677,190.00

27 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

28	Permanent:	Full Time. . . . .	112
29		Part Time. . . . .	0
30	Time-Limited:	Full Time. . . . .	0
31		Part Time. . . . .	0

32 From the funds provided in the budget category "Personal  
33 Services: Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits," funds may be  
34 expended for the following purposes, in compliance with the  
35 policies established by the State Personnel Board and any  
36 conditions placed on such expenditures:

37 (a) The components of the Variable Compensation Plan  
38 shall be maintained within the constraints of the funds  
39 appropriated herein.

40 (b) Funds are provided to adjust the Variable  
41 Compensation Plan, including realignment, to ensure that all  
42 full-time employees with at least six (6) months of continuous  
43 current service, as of June 30, 1999, receive an increase of One  
44 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). Funds are provided to  
45 adjust critical job classes up to an additional One Thousand  
46 Dollars (\$1,000.00).

47 (c) If an employee is currently at or above the end  
48 salary for his or her job classification, then the increase shall  
49 be built into the employee's base salary. To be eligible for any  
50 increase authorized in this section, employees may not have a  
51 current performance rating below "meets expectations" as of the  
52 effective date of the increase. Employees who subsequently  
53 receive a performance rating of "meets expectations" or above  
54 during Fiscal Year 2000 shall receive the salary increase  
55 effective the date of the rating.

56 It is the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds  
57 required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal  
58 Year 2001 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2000 funds appropriated for  
59 that purpose unless programs or positions are added to the

60 agency's budget by the Mississippi Legislature.

61 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
62 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law.

63 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
64 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are  
65 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this  
66 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

67 SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
68 Section 1, and authorized for expenditure in Section 2,  
69 Twenty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-six Dollars (\$24,896.00)  
70 is provided for the Mississippi Fire Personnel Minimum Standards  
71 and Certification Board.

72 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
73 Mississippi Department of Insurance be allowed to escalate its  
74 budget and expend funds not to exceed Two Million Dollars  
75 (\$2,000,000.00) from the special fund in the State Treasury to the  
76 credit of the Rural Fire Truck Fund for the administration of the  
77 Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Assistance Program. This escalation  
78 shall be done in accordance with rules and regulations of the  
79 Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent  
80 with the escalation of federal funds.

81 Notwithstanding the amount authorized in this section, in no  
82 event shall the amount escalated exceed the unexpended balance as  
83 of June 30, 1999, or change the purpose for which the funds were  
84 originally authorized in Section 17-23-1, Mississippi Code of  
85 1972.

86 SECTION 5. Funds are provided in this act for the  
87 reallocation of an Accounting/Auditing Technician to an  
88 Accounting/Auditor I not to exceed Five Thousand Three Hundred  
89 Twenty-two Dollars (\$5,322.00).

90 SECTION 6. Funds are provided in this act for the  
91 reallocation of a Branch Director I to a Branch Director II not to  
92 exceed Four Thousand Ninety-six Dollars (\$4,096.00).

93           SECTION 7. Funds are provided in this act for the  
94 reclassification of four (4) Consumer Service Specialist I to  
95 Consumer Service Specialist II not to exceed Twelve Thousand Seven  
96 Hundred Twenty-one Dollars (\$12,721.00).

97           SECTION 8. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
98 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
99 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
100 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
101 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
102 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

103           SECTION 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
104 and after July 1, 1999.