

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MR. PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled **BILL:**

H.B. No. 1613: Appropriation; Mississippi Public Service Commission.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.**
- 2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:**

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5 SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
6 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
7 Treasury to the credit of the Public Service Commission Regulation
8 Fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi
9 Public Service Commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
10 1999, and ending June 30, 2000.....
11 \$ 7,917,430.00.

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:

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

17 Personal Services:

18 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits..	\$	5,007,298.00
19 Travel and Subsistence.....		570,000.00
20 Contractual Services.....		1,315,606.00
21 Commodities.....		370,110.00
22 Capital Outlay:		
23 Other Than Equipment.....		0.00
24 Equipment.....		646,416.00
25 Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....		<u>8,000.00</u>
26 Total.....	\$	7,917,430.00

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

28	Permanent:	Full Time.	111
29		Part Time.	1
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. None of the funds herein appropriated by this act
68 to the Public Service Commission shall be expended for any purpose
69 that is not actually required or necessary for performing any of
70 the powers or duties of the Mississippi Public Service Commission
71 that are authorized by the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, state
72 or federal law, or rules or regulations that implement state or
73 federal law.

74 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
75 Public Service Commission shall have the authority to escalate and
76 expend funds from any proceeds arising from participation in drug
77 seizure activities not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars
78 (\$50,000.00), in accordance with the rules and regulations of the
79 Department of Finance and Administration.

80 SECTION 5. Funds are provided in this act for the
81 reallocation of PIN 0117 from Purchasing Chief to Division
82 Director I not to exceed Eight Thousand Six Hundred dollars
83 (\$8,600.00).

84 SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that with
85 the funds provided herein, overtime may be paid to PSC-Enforcement
86 Office Regulated Carrier positions, the PSC-Enforcement Officer
87 Chief position, PSC-Enforcement Officer District Supervisor
88 positions, PSC-Special Projects Officer IV position, and
89 PSC-Training Director position.

90 SECTION 7. With the funds provided herein, it is the
91 intention of the Legislature to establish a new job classification
92 of PSC-Enforcement Officer Regulated Carrier positions, as
93 approved by the State Personnel Board.

94 SECTION 8. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
95 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
96 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
97 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal

98 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
99 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

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

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE:

X
Charlie Capps, Jr.

X
Ted Foster

X
Bill Denny

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE:

X
Dick Hall

X
Tommy A. Gollott

X
Terry C. Burton