

**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. 1629: Appropriation; Arts 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 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of  
8 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Arts Commission for the  
9 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000.....       \$

10           SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
11 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the special  
12 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Arts  
13 Commission which is comprised of special source funds and  
14 donations collected by or otherwise available to the commission,  
15 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the commission for  
16 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000.  
17 ..... \$                   923,042.00.

18           SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
19 Section 1 and Section 2, not more than the amounts set forth below  
20 shall be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of  
21 expenditure:

**MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:**

23           Personal Services:

24                 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits..	\$	521,455.00
25                 Travel and Subsistence.....		22,109.00
26                 Contractual Services.....		235,130.00
27                 Commodities.....		71,800.00

28	Capital Outlay:	
29	Other Than Equipment.....	0.00
30	Equipment.....	11,000.00
31	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>1,841,741.00</u>
32	Total.....	\$ 2,703,235.00

33	FUNDING:	
34	General Funds.....	\$ 1,780,193.00
35	Special Funds.....	<u>923,042.00</u>
36	Total.....	\$ 2,703,235.00

37 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

38	Permanent:	Full Time. . . . .	11
39		Part Time. . . . .	0
40	Time-Limited:	Full Time. . . . .	1
41		Part Time. . . . .	0

42 From the funds provided in the budget category "Personal  
43 Services: Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits," funds may be  
44 expended for the following purposes, in compliance with the  
45 policies established by the State Personnel Board and any  
46 conditions placed on such expenditures:

47 (a) The components of the Variable Compensation Plan  
48 shall be maintained within the constraints of the funds  
49 appropriated herein.

50 (b) Funds are provided to adjust the Variable  
51 Compensation Plan, including realignment, to ensure that all  
52 full-time employees with at least six (6) months of continuous  
53 current service, as of June 30, 1999, receive an increase of One  
54 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). Funds are provided to  
55 adjust critical job classes up to an additional One Thousand  
56 Dollars (\$1,000.00).

57 (c) If an employee is currently at or above the end  
58 salary for his or her job classification, then the increase shall  
59 be built into the employee's base salary. To be eligible for any  
60 increase authorized in this section, employees may not have a  
61 current performance rating below "meets expectations" as of the  
62 effective date of the increase. Employees who subsequently

63 receive a performance rating of "meets expectations" or above  
64 during Fiscal Year 2000 shall receive the salary increase  
65 effective the date of the rating.

66 It is the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds  
67 required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal  
68 Year 2001 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2000 funds appropriated for  
69 that purpose unless programs or positions are added to the  
70 agency's budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Any transfers or  
71 escalations shall be made in accordance with the terms, conditions  
72 and procedures established by law.

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

77 SECTION 4. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
78 Section 2, funds in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty Thousand  
79 Dollars (\$450,000.00) shall be derived from the Education  
80 Enhancement Fund pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31,  
81 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the following:

82 Training of educators and promotion  
83 of arts programs in public schools . . . \$100,000.00  
84 Miscellaneous grants and programs . . . \$350,000.00

85 SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
86 Arts Commission shall have the authority to transfer dollars  
87 appropriated in the major object of expenditure "Subsidies, Loans  
88 and Grants," designated for the "Challenge Program," specific  
89 amounts to a special fund in the State Treasury called the Arts  
90 Commission Challenge Initiative Fund. The unexpended amounts  
91 remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse  
92 into the State General Fund and may be expended by the commission  
93 in subsequent fiscal years upon appropriation of the Legislature.

94 Any interest earned on the fund shall be deposited to the credit  
95 of the fund and may be disbursed by the commission upon  
96 appropriations of the Legislature. It is the intention of the  
97 Legislature that the commission may award grants to arts

