

By: Henderson (9th), Maples, Hamilton,  
Martinson, Stringer, Warren, Weathersby

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1626  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND  
2 MAINTENANCE OF THE STATE FORESTRY COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
3 2001.

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 the State  
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support and  
8 maintenance of the State Forestry Commission for the fiscal year  
9 beginning July 1, 2000, and ending June 30, 2001.....  
10 .....\$ 21,738,002.00.

11 SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the special  
13 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Forestry  
14 Commission which is comprised of special source funds collected by  
15 or otherwise available to the commission, for the support and  
16 maintenance of the commission for the fiscal year beginning July  
17 1, 2000, and ending June 30, 2001.....  
18 .....\$ 10,952,423.00.

19 Of the funds specified in this section, Two Hundred Fifty  
20 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) shall be deposited in a fund  
21 created in the State Treasury called the "Forest Improvement  
22 Revolving Fund." Money in this fund shall be used by the State  
23 Forestry Commission to assist in the reforestation and growth  
24 improvement of the forests, woodlands, and publicly owned lands of  
25 the state, including sixteenth section lands, Camp Shelby,  
26 Columbia Training School and colleges and universities.

27 Landowners who contract with the commission for such work shall  
28 pay to the commission its actual cost for conducting such work.  
29 Money received for this work by the commission shall be paid into  
30 the State Treasury, and the State Treasurer shall deposit such  
31 money in the "Forest Improvement Revolving Fund."

32 SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
33 Sections 1 and 2, not more than the amounts set forth below shall  
34 be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of  
35 expenditure:

36 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

37 Personal Services:

38	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits...\$	21,969,044.00
39	Travel and Subsistence.....	100,000.00
40	Contractual Services.....	2,505,000.00
41	Commodities.....	2,396,381.00
42	Capital Outlay:	
43	Other Than Equipment.....	400,000.00
44	Equipment.....	1,320,000.00
45	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>4,000,000.00</u>
46	Total.....\$	32,690,425.00

47 FUNDING:

48	General Funds.....\$	21,738,002.00
49	Special Funds.....	<u>10,952,423.00</u>
50	Total.....\$	32,690,425.00

51 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

52	Permanent: Full Time.....	666
53	Part Time.....	74
54	Time-Limited: Full Time.....	0
55	Part Time.....	0

56 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of  
57 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to  
58 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal  
59 Services" for Fiscal Year 2002 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2001  
60 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions  
61 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2002 budget by the  
62 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the  
63 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall

64 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all  
65 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this  
66 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure  
67 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual  
68 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2001 appropriation for "Personal  
69 Services" when annualized. If, at the end of any calendar month,  
70 the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken  
71 action(s) which would cause the agency to exceed this projected  
72 annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2001 "Personal Services"  
73 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
74 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation  
75 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
76 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

83 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
84 State Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate its budget in the  
85 Capital Outlay: Equipment major object of expenditure, with funds  
86 generated from the Forest Acreage Tax, and with funds generated  
87 from the sale of old equipment and lease of tower sites an amount  
88 not to exceed Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00).

89 It is further the intention of the Legislature that the State  
90 Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate its budget in the  
91 Subsidies, Loans and Grants major object of expenditure, with  
92 funds generated from the Severance Tax to fund the Forest Resource  
93 Development Program in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred  
94 Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00). The receipt of these funds is  
95 hereby authorized and approved, provided such receipts and  
96 expenditures are reported and otherwise accounted for in

97 accordance with Section 27-103-101 et seq. and Section 27-104-1 et  
98 seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.

99 SECTION 5. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
100 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
101 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
102 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
103 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
104 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
105 performance measures provided below:

	FY01
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
108 Fire Control	
109       Number of fires per year	4.847
110       Average size of fire (acres)	8.25
111 Private Lands Management	
112       Land reforested (acres)	175,000
113       Landowners assisted (persons)	17,000
114 Public Lands Management	
115       Value of timber sold (dollars)	\$20,000,000
116 Insect and Disease Control	
117       Acres surveyed	17,500,000
118 Forest Resource Development	
119       Acres regenerated	60,000
120 Federal Excess Property	
121       Number of vehicles acquired	150
122 Regeneration	
123       Genetically improved seedlings	50,000,000

124 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
125 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
126 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
127 Committee for Fiscal Year 2002.

128 SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
129 State Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate part-time

130 positions up to one hundred (100) and expend funds not to exceed  
131 Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) from any source of  
132 funds that become available to the commission. This escalation  
133 shall be in accordance with rules and regulations of the  
134 Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent  
135 with the escalation of federal funds. These positions may be used  
136 to protect life and property during extended periods of extreme  
137 wildfire occurrences of a minimum of fifty (50) fires per day.  
138 The escalation of positions and the expenditure of these funds  
139 shall be at the discretion of the State Forester, with written  
140 notification to the State Personnel Board and the State Fiscal  
141 Officer.

142 SECTION 7. The Forestry Commission has the authority to  
143 purchase from the "General Services Administration" Fire Fighter  
144 Catalog.

145 SECTION 8. Of the above funds, none can be expended until  
146 there is created an additional Forestry Tech I for the South  
147 Central District whose primary purpose shall be to advise on the  
148 issues of management of sixteenth section land.

149 SECTION 9. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
150 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
151 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
152 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
153 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
154 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

155 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
156 and after July 1, 2000.