

By: Representatives Watson, McBride, Coleman To: Appropriations  
(29th), Eakes, Gadd, Green

HOUSE BILL NO. 1598

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR FISCAL YEAR  
3 2002.

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 purpose of  
8 defraying the expenses of the Office of the Attorney General for  
9 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002.

10 ..... \$ 6,474,139.00.

11 SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special  
13 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Office of the  
14 Attorney General which is comprised of special source funds  
15 collected by or otherwise available to the office, for the purpose  
16 of defraying the expenses of the office for the fiscal year  
17 beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002.....

18 ..... \$ 10,866,929.00.

19 SECTION 3. With the funds appropriated under the provisions  
20 of Section 1 and Section 2, the following positions are  
21 authorized:

22 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

23	Permanent:	Full Time.....	92
24		Part Time.....	0
25	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	129
26		Part Time.....	0

27           With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of  
28 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to  
29 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal  
30 Services" for Fiscal Year 2003 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2002  
31 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions  
32 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2003 budget by the  
33 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the  
34 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall  
35 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all  
36 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this  
37 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure  
38 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual  
39 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2002 appropriation for "Personal  
40 Services" when annualized. If, at the end of any calendar month,  
41 the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken  
42 action(s) which would cause the agency to exceed this projected  
43 annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2002 "Personal Services"  
44 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
45 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation  
46 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
47 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

54           SECTION 4. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
55 Section 2, funds included therein which are derived from penalties  
56 and/or other funds collected by the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit  
57 shall be available for the purpose of providing the state match  
58 for federal funds available for the support of the unit, or for  
59 other lawful purposes as deemed appropriate by the Attorney

60 General. Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that any  
61 penalties and/or other funds collected and/or expended shall be  
62 accounted for separately as to source and/or application of such  
63 funds.

64 SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
65 Attorney General's Office charge legal fees to all agencies where  
66 such legal services are provided. The Attorney General's Office  
67 may contract these fees on a contract rate or an hourly rate,  
68 whichever is more appropriate. Contracts with the Attorney  
69 General's Office for legal services or reimbursement for hourly  
70 legal services shall not require the approval of the State  
71 Personnel Board. The Attorney General's Office is further  
72 authorized to escalate the amount of any of its major objects of  
73 expenditure in an amount not to exceed Seven Hundred Fifty  
74 Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) above any amounts herein  
75 authorized, and to increase the number of authorized positions in  
76 order to provide the required legal services for such state  
77 agencies.

78 SECTION 6. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
79 Section 2, the amount of Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
80 (\$650,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be  
81 made available for expenditure by the Prosecutors Training  
82 Division.

83 SECTION 7. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
84 Attorney General's Office shall have the authority to accept,  
85 budget and expend any source funds not to exceed Seven Hundred  
86 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00), that become available to the  
87 office to carry out the provisions of those funds in a manner  
88 consistent with the rules and regulations of the Department of  
89 Finance and Administration. None of the funds authorized in this  
90 section shall be used to increase the major object of expenditure  
91 "Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits."

92 SECTION 8. No part of the money herein appropriated shall be  
 93 used, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of paying any  
 94 clerk, stenographer, assistant, deputy or other person who may be  
 95 related by blood or marriage within the third degree, computed by  
 96 the rules of civil law, to the official employing or having the  
 97 right of employment or selection thereof; and in the event of any  
 98 such payment, then the official or person approving and making or  
 99 receiving such payment shall be jointly and severally liable to  
 100 return to the State of Mississippi and to pay into the State  
 101 Treasury three (3) times any such amount so paid or received;  
 102 however, when the relationship is by affinity and the person  
 103 through whom the relationship was established is dead, this  
 104 provision shall not apply.

105 SECTION 9. None of the funds appropriated by this act shall  
 106 be expended for any purpose that is not actually required or  
 107 necessary for performing any of the powers or duties of the Office  
 108 of the Attorney General that are authorized by the Mississippi  
 109 Constitution of 1890, state or federal law, or rules or  
 110 regulations that implement state or federal law.

111 SECTION 10. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
 112 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
 113 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
 114 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
 115 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
 116 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
 117 performance measures provided below:

118		FY02
119	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
120	Support Services	
121	Cost of Support Services as Percentage	
122	of Budget (percent)	4.64
123	DFA Error Exception Slips per Month (items)	36
124	Training	

125	Approval on Prosecutors Training (percent)	95
126	Litigation	
127	Minimum Affirmation of Criminal	
128	Convictions (percent)	85
129	Minimum Affirmations of Death Penalty	
130	Appeals (percent)	60
131	Minimum Denial of Relief in Federal	
132	Habeas Corpus (percent)	90
133	Minimum Positive Results of Civil Cases (percent)	70
134	Minimum Positive Results of Section 1983	
135	Cases (percent)	80
136	Opinions	
137	Assigned to Attorneys in 3 Days or Less (percent)	100
138	Opinions Completed in 30 Days or Less (percent)	75
139	Good & Excellent Ratings for Training (percent)	85
140	State Agency Contracts	
141	Good & Excellent Ratings for Legal	
142	Services (percent)	80
143	Insurance Integrity Enforcement	
144	Minimum Positive Results of Workers'	
145	Compensation Cases (percent)	80
146	Minimum Positive Results of Insurance	
147	Cases (percent)	80
148	Other Mandated Programs	
149	Medicaid Fraud Convictions vs Dispositions(percent)	80
150	Medicaid Abuse Convictions vs Dispositions(percent)	80
151	Minimum Defendants Convicted After	
152	Indictments (percent)	90
153	Response to Consumer Complaints (Days)	7
154	Minimum Positive Results of Consumer	
155	Cases (percent)	75
156	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets set	
157	above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	

158 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
159 Committee for Fiscal Year 2003.

160 SECTION 11. It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
161 Attorney General's Office shall have the authority to accept,  
162 budget and expend any source funds not to exceed Two Million Two  
163 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,200,000.00) that become available to  
164 the office for Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers Big Sisters of  
165 America and Communities in Schools and to carry out the provisions  
166 of those funds in a manner consistent with the rules and  
167 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
168 Attorney General's Office is further authorized to escalate an  
169 amount not to exceed Two Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars  
170 (\$2,200,000.00) for such purposes of this section.

171 SECTION 12. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
172 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
173 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
174 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
175 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
176 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

177 SECTION 13. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
178 and after July 1, 2001.