HOUSE BILL NO. 1612
(As Sent to Governor)

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR

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

SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the State Board of
Education for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
Mississippi School for the Blind and the Mississippi School for
the Deaf for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending
June 30, 2002.................. $ 10,336,346.00.

SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the special
fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Board of
Education for the support of the Mississippi School for the Blind
or the Mississippi School for the Deaf which is comprised of
special source funds collected by or otherwise available to the
schools, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the schools
for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending
June 30, 2002.................. $ 964,052.00.

SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
Section 1 and Section 2, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent: Full Time........ 213
Part Time........ 40
Time-Limited: Full Time........ 3
With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2003 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2002 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2003 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure that no single personnel action increases this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2002 appropriation for "Personal Services" when annualized. If, at the end of any calendar month, the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken action(s) which would cause the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2002 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

None of the funds herein provided shall be expended to hire any person on a contractual basis, for any period for any purpose, without the express prior approval of the State Personnel Director. The State Personnel Director shall consider, in approving such contracts, the availability of funds, the need for
services, compliance with the State Compensation Plan and the
qualifications of the persons offering to perform the services.
The State Fiscal Officer shall not pay any warrant that is in
violation of this section.

SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
Mississippi School for the Blind and the Mississippi School for
the Deaf shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records
related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this
act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of
detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2001. The Department of
Finance and Administration shall insure that financial controls
comparable to those utilized for Fiscal Year 2001 are maintained
throughout Fiscal Year 2002 for this agency. The State Personnel
Board shall insure that personnel controls and records comparable
to those utilized for Fiscal Year 2001 are maintained throughout
Fiscal Year 2002 for this agency. It is further the intention of
the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year
2003 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level
of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2002 budget request
process.

SECTION 5. With the funds provided herein, it is the
intention of the Legislature that the academic teachers at the
Mississippi School for the Deaf and the Mississippi School for the
Blind shall receive their annual increment.

SECTION 6. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2001.