

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 1617 (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 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 support and
8 maintenance of the State Forestry Commission for the fiscal year
9 beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002.....
10 \$ 19,212,384.00.

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
17 July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002.....
18 \$ 11,662,536.00.

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..	\$	21,623,544.00
39	Travel and Subsistence.....		60,000.00
40	Contractual Services.....		2,242,495.00
41	Commodities.....		2,248,881.00
42	Capital Outlay:		
43	Other Than Equipment.....		0.00
44	Equipment.....		1,200,000.00
45	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....		<u>3,500,000.00</u>
46	Total.....	\$	30,874,920.00

47 FUNDING:

48	General Funds.....	\$	19,212,384.00
49	Special Funds.....		<u>11,662,536.00</u>
50	Total.....	\$	30,874,920.00

51 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

52	Permanent:	Full Time.....	653
53		Part Time.....	58
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 2003 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2002
60 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions

61 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2003 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 2002 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 2002 "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:

	FY02
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
108 Fire Control	
109 Number of Fires per Year (Events)	4,585
110 Average Size of Fire (Acres)	11.95
111 Private Lands Management	
112 Land Reforested (Acres)	175,000
113 Landowners Assisted (Persons)	25,000
114 Public Lands Management	
115 Value of Timber Sold (Dollars)	15,000,000
116 Insect & Disease Control	
117 Acres Surveyed (Millions)	18,600,000
118 Forest Resource Development	
119 Acres Regenerated (Acres)	75,000
120 Federal Excess Property	
121 Number of Vehicles Acquired (Vehicles)	95
122 Regeneration	
123 Genetically Improved Seedlings (In Millions)	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 2003.

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. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
146 fund designated as the Volunteer Fire Department Equipment
147 Conversion Revolving Fund to be used by the State Forestry
148 Commission to assist in the conversion of vehicles acquired by the
149 State Forestry Commission through the Federal Excess Personal
150 Property Program or by Volunteer Fire Departments through other
151 means to adapt them for use in the suppression of wildland fires.
152 This assistance shall be in the form of fabrication of water tanks
153 or other accessories necessary for the operation of fire
154 suppression units, installation of piping and valves, painting or
155 other similar or associated component work necessary to place fire
156 suppression equipment into service. It is not for general vehicle
157 maintenance or repair.

158 The Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Conversion Revolving
159 Fund shall be funded by monies received from charges for work and
160 services performed for Volunteer Fire Departments by the State
161 Forestry Commission. Monies collected from such charges shall be
162 deposited into the Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Conversion
163 Revolving Fund. The State Treasurer shall make disbursements
164 therefrom for payment of materials, supplies and labor upon
165 requisition of the Forestry Commission and upon the issuance of
166 warrants therefor by the Department of Finance and Administration.

167 The amount of monies deposited into the Volunteer Fire
168 Department Equipment Conversion Fund through this work shall not
169 exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00). Funds in excess of
170 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be placed in the State
171 Forestry Commission's regular appropriated special funds. Monies
172 in this revolving fund are to be considered special funds and
173 shall be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next.

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

180 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from
181 and after July 1, 2001.