

By: Senator(s) Gordon, Thames, Huggins,
Posey, Dearing, Hamilton, Simmons, Walls

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3126
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002.

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

4 SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
5 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
6 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
7 defraying the expenses and paying salaries of the Veterans Affairs
8 Board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending
9 June 30, 2002..... \$ 2,955,095.00.

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 Veterans Affairs
13 Board which is comprised of special source funds collected by or
14 otherwise available to the board, for the support and maintenance
15 of said board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and
16 ending June 30, 2002..... \$ 20,786,211.00.

17 SECTION 3. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
18 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Health
19 Care Expendable Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Veterans
20 Affairs Board for the support of the Mississippi State Veterans
21 Homes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending
22 June 30, 2002..... \$ 700,000.00.

23 SECTION 4. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
24 Sections 1, 2 and 3, not more than the amounts set forth below
25 shall be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of
26 expenditure:

27 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

28 Personal Services:

29	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits..	\$	6,717,836.00
30	Travel and Subsistence.....		58,000.00
31	Contractual Services.....		15,443,565.00
32	Commodities.....		1,785,995.00
33	Capital Outlay:		
34	Other Than Equipment.....		200,000.00
35	Equipment.....		235,910.00
36	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....		<u>0.00</u>
37	Total.....	\$	24,441,306.00

38 FUNDING:

39	General Funds.....	\$	2,955,095.00
40	Special Funds.....		<u>21,486,211.00</u>
41	Total.....	\$	24,441,306.00

42 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

43	Permanent:	Full Time.....	79
44		Part Time.....	0
45	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	154
46		Part Time.....	25

47 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
48 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
49 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
50 Services" for Fiscal Year 2003 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2002
51 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
52 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2003 budget by the
53 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
54 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
55 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
56 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
57 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
58 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
59 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2002 appropriation for "Personal

60 Services" when annualized. If, at the end of any calendar month,
61 the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken
62 action(s) which would cause the agency to exceed this projected
63 annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2002 "Personal Services"
64 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which
65 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation
66 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until
67 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

74 SECTION 5. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
75 Section 1, and authorized for expenditure in Section 3, funds in
76 the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
77 (\$250,000.00) are provided to defray the cost of providing care to
78 indigent/low-income Mississippi veterans and the non-veteran
79 surviving spouses of Mississippi veterans if the surviving spouse
80 was a resident of a state veterans home at the time of the
81 veteran's death and who, subsequent to the veteran's death, meets
82 the indigent/low-income criteria established by the State Veterans
83 Affairs Board, in the state veterans homes. It is the intention
84 of the Legislature that the provision pertaining to use of
85 indigent/low-income surviving spouses be retroactive for any such
86 period, prior to the effective date of this act, that a current
87 surviving spouse may have met the criteria. This section and its
88 provisions shall be known and cited as the "Hilton R. 'Jack' Vance
89 Act of 1997."

90 SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
91 Executive Director of the Veterans Affairs Board may authorize
92 increases in major objects of expenditure in total amounts not to

93 exceed five percent (5%) of the appropriated amount of each major
94 object of expenditure, provided that other major objects of
95 expenditure are decreased by the corresponding dollar amount.
96 However, no transfers shall be authorized which increase the major
97 object of expenditure "Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits."

98 SECTION 7. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
99 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
100 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
101 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
102 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
103 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

104 SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from
105 and after July 1, 2001.