HOUSE BILL NO. 311

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT WHENEVER THE LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZES
SALARY INCREASES FOR EMPLOYEES OF STATE AGENCIES, COMMUNITY AND
JUNIOR COLLEGES AND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, THE
SALARY INCREASES MUST BE AWARDED IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE
LEGISLATIVE INTENT EXPRESSED AND ANY FORMULA SPECIFIED IN THE
RESPECTIVE APPROPRIATION BILLS; TO REQUIRE THE EXECUTIVE HEAD OF
EACH AGENCY, COMMUNITY OR JUNIOR COLLEGE AND STATE INSTITUTION OF
HIGHER LEARNING TO VERIFY THAT THE SALARY INCREASES ARE AWARDED
CONSISTENT WITH LEGISLATIVE INTENT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE HEAD OF
ANY STATE AGENCY, COLLEGE OR INSTITUTION WHO EXPENDS FUNDS IN
VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE PERSONALLY LIABLE
TO THE STATE FOR THE AMOUNT OF MONEY IMPROPERLY EXPENDED; TO
PROHIBIT THE STATE FISCAL OFFICER FROM ISSUING ANY WARRANTS THAT
WOULD AUTHORIZE ANY STATE AGENCY, COMMUNITY OR JUNIOR COLLEGE OR
STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING TO EXPEND ANY MONEY IN
VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. (1) Whenever the Legislature authorizes salary
increases for the employees of any state agency, community or
junior college or state institution of higher learning in an
appropriation bill, the executive head of the agency, college or
institution shall provide the salary increases to the employees in
strict compliance with the legislative intent expressed and any
formula specified in the appropriation bill. If the Legislature
provides for across-the-board salary increases for the employees
of a state agency, community or junior college or state
institution of higher learning in an appropriation bill, and the
bill specifies that the salary increases are to be the same amount
for each employee, the money allocated in the appropriation bill
for across-the-board salary increases may not be used by the
different amounts for different employees.

(2) Before July 1 of any fiscal year for which the
Legislature has authorized salary increases for the employees of

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any state agency, community or junior college or state institution of higher learning in an appropriation bill, the employee of the agency, college or institution responsible for awarding the raises shall compile a roster of all employees entitled to receive the raise, as directed in the respective appropriation bill. The roster must include each employee's salary before the increase is awarded and the employee's new salary effective on July 1 when the increase is awarded. The roster must be submitted to the executive head of the agency, college or institution, who is responsible for verifying that each employee is awarded the salary increase provided in the applicable appropriation bill in strict compliance with the legislative intent expressed and any formula specified in the appropriation bill.

(3) If the executive head or other employee of a state agency, community or junior college or state institution of higher learning authorizes or allows any of the money allocated in the appropriation bill for salary increases for employees of the agency, college or institution to be used or expended in any manner that is not in strict compliance with the legislative intent expressed and any formula specified in the appropriation bill or which is otherwise in violation of this section, the executive head or other employee shall be personally liable to the State of Mississippi for the amount of money so authorized or allowed to be improperly used or expended.

(4) The State Fiscal Officer may not issue any warrant authorizing any of the money allocated in an appropriation bill for salary increases for employees of a state agency, community or junior college or state institution of higher learning to be used or expended in any manner that is not in strict compliance with the legislative intent expressed and any formula specified in the appropriation bill or which is otherwise in violation of this section.
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2002.