

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

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3166

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003.

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, 2002, and ending
9 June 30, 2003..... \$ 2,459,020.00.

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, 2002, and
16 ending June 30, 2003..... \$ 21,232,271.00.

17 SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
18 Sections 1 and 2, not more than the amounts set forth below shall
19 be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of
20 expenditure:

21 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

22 Personal Services:

23 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits.. \$ 5,673,041.00
24 Travel and Subsistence..... 64,000.00
25 Contractual Services..... 15,538,967.00
26 Commodities..... 1,847,308.00

27 Capital Outlay:



28	Other Than Equipment.....	200,000.00
29	Equipment.....	367,401.00
30	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>574.00</u>
31	Total.....	\$ 23,691,291.00

32 FUNDING:

33	General Funds.....	\$ 2,459,020.00
34	Special Funds.....	<u>21,232,271.00</u>
35	Total.....	\$ 23,691,291.00

36 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

37	Permanent: Full Time.....	77
38	Part Time.....	0
39	Time-Limited: Full Time.....	137
40	Part Time.....	5

41 Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation
42 Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase
43 equal to fifty percent (50%) of the realignment component of the
44 Variable Compensation Plan or Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00),
45 whichever is greater, beginning on January 1, 2003.

46 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
47 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
48 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
49 Services" for Fiscal Year 2004 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2003
50 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs, positions or
51 pay increases are added to the agency's budget by the Mississippi
52 Legislature. Based on data provided by the Legislative Budget
53 Office, the State Personnel Board shall, on July 1, 2002, publish
54 separate annual projection reports, based on July 1, 2002 data,
55 for the period of July 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002, and
56 January 1, 2003 through June 30, 2003, that project the annual
57 cost to fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with
58 the provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the
59 agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases
60 this projected cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2003 appropriation for



61 "Personal Services," as annualized on a semi-annual basis in
62 accordance with the provisions of this act. If, at the end of any
63 calendar month, the State Personnel Board determines that the
64 agency has taken action(s) which would cause the agency to exceed
65 this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2003 "Personal
66 Services" appropriated level, when annualized in compliance with
67 the provisions of this act, then only those actions which reduce
68 the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation requirement
69 will be processed by the State Personnel Board until such time as
70 the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

77 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
78 Section 1, and authorized for expenditure in Section 3, funds in
79 the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
80 (\$250,000.00) are provided to defray the cost of providing care to
81 indigent/low-income Mississippi veterans and the non-veteran
82 surviving spouses of Mississippi veterans if the surviving spouse
83 was a resident of a state veterans home at the time of the
84 veteran's death and who, subsequent to the veteran's death, meets
85 the indigent/low-income criteria established by the State Veterans
86 Affairs Board, in the state veterans homes. It is the intention
87 of the Legislature that the provision pertaining to use of
88 indigent/low-income surviving spouses be retroactive for any such
89 period, prior to the effective date of this act, that a current
90 surviving spouse may have met the criteria. This section and its
91 provisions shall be known and cited as the "Hilton R. 'Jack' Vance
92 Act of 1997."



93 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
94 Executive Director of the Veterans Affairs Board may authorize
95 increases in major objects of expenditure in total amounts not to
96 exceed five percent (5%) of the appropriated amount of each major
97 object of expenditure, provided that other major objects of
98 expenditure are decreased by the corresponding dollar amount.
99 However, no transfers shall be authorized which increase the major
100 object of expenditure "Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits."

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

107 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
108 and after July 1, 2002.

