

By: Senator(s) Little, Gordon, Huggins,  
Dearing, Burton, Mettetal, Dawkins, Gollott,  
Hewes, Williamson, Horhn, Minor, Jordan,  
Harden, Cuevas, Lee, Harvey, Furniss

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2327  
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF STATE GENERAL  
2 FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
3 MATCHING FEDERAL FUNDS TO MAXIMIZE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE HIRING  
4 OF ADDITIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** In addition to all other sums heretofore  
7 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
8 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
9 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of  
10 the Department of Human Services for the period beginning upon  
11 passage and ending June 30, 2003..... \$650,000.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** This additional appropriation is made for the  
13 purpose of authorizing state funds to match federal funds for the  
14 hiring of additional social workers at the Department of Human  
15 Services. The State General Funds appropriated herein represent  
16 funds transferred into the State General Fund by Attorney General  
17 Mike Moore resulting from a settlement in a multistate  
18 investigation of Bridgestone/Firestone. Not less than One Hundred  
19 Eighty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$187,500.00) of the  
20 funds appropriated herein shall be allocated to counties in which  
21 social worker case loads are in excess of one hundred (100) cases  
22 per social worker as reported by the most recent survey of the  
23 Mississippi Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.  
24 The department is authorized to establish up to forty-two (42) new  
25 full-time, permanent DHS-social-worker positions as necessary to  
26 ensure that average case loads per social worker do not exceed  
27 fifty (50) cases. The department is authorized to escalate,  
28 budget and expend special funds received from any source to carry



29 out the provisions of this act. In the event that funds made  
30 available through this act are not adequate to ensure that average  
31 case loads per social worker do not exceed fifty (50) cases, the  
32 department may maintain case loads above this level provided that  
33 funds are allocated to counties with the greatest need as  
34 determined by the most recent survey of case loads per social  
35 worker.

36       **SECTION 3.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
37 the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or funds  
38 as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal  
39 Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants  
40 upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers  
41 in the manner provided by law.

42       **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
43 and after its passage and through June 30, 2003.

