

By: Senator(s) Gordon, Little, Frazier,  
Davis, Flowers, Jackson (32nd), Turner

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3081

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006.

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, 2005, and ending  
9 June 30, 2006..... \$ 1,326,456.00.

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, 2005, and  
16 ending June 30, 2006..... \$ 23,502,982.00.

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.. \$ 11,641,885.00  
24 Travel and Subsistence..... 45,971.00  
25 Contractual Services..... 11,305,914.00  
26 Commodities..... 1,764,168.00

27 Capital Outlay:

28	Other Than Equipment.....	0.00
29	Equipment.....	21,500.00
30	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>50,000.00</u>
31	Total.....	\$ 24,829,438.00

32 FUNDING:

33	General Funds.....	\$ 1,326,456.00
34	Special Funds.....	<u>23,502,982.00</u>
35	Total.....	\$ 24,829,438.00

36 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

37	Permanent: Full Time.....	68
38	Part Time.....	0
39	Time-Limited: Full Time.....	353
40	Part Time.....	37

41 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of  
42 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to  
43 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal  
44 Services" for Fiscal Year 2007 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2006  
45 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions  
46 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2007 budget by the  
47 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the  
48 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall  
49 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all  
50 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this  
51 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure  
52 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual  
53 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2006 appropriation for "Personal  
54 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds.  
55 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal  
56 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency  
57 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this  
58 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2006 "Personal Services"  
59 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
60 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation

61 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
62 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

63 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
64 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
65 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
66 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
67 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
68 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
69 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
70 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
71 appropriated level.

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

76 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
77 Sections 1 and 2, funds in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty  
78 Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) are provided to defray the cost of  
79 providing care to indigent/low-income Mississippi veterans and the  
80 non-veteran surviving spouses of Mississippi veterans if the  
81 surviving spouse was a resident of a state veterans home at the  
82 time of the veteran's death and who, subsequent to the veteran's  
83 death, meets the indigent/low-income criteria established by the  
84 State Veterans Affairs Board, in the state veterans homes. It is  
85 the intention of the Legislature that the provision pertaining to  
86 use of indigent/low-income surviving spouses be retroactive for  
87 any such period, prior to the effective date of this act, that a  
88 current surviving spouse may have met the criteria. This section  
89 and its provisions shall be known and cited as the "Hilton R.  
90 'Jack' Vance Act of 1997."

91 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
92 Section 2, Six Hundred Twenty-one Thousand Four Hundred  
93 Seventy-two Dollars (\$621,472.00) shall be derived from the Health

94 Care Expendable Fund created in Section 43-13-407, Mississippi  
95 Code of 1972, for the support and maintenance of the Veterans'  
96 Affairs Board.

97       **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
98 Veterans Affairs Board shall maintain complete accounting and  
99 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
100 appropriated under the provisions of this act and that such  
101 records shall be in the same format and level of details as  
102 maintained for Fiscal Year 2005. It is further the intention of  
103 the Legislature that the budget request for Fiscal Year 2007 shall  
104 be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
105 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
106 provided during the Fiscal Year 2006 budget request process.

107       **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
108 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
109 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
110 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
111 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
112 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

113       **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
114 and after July 1, 2005.