

By: Senator(s) Gordon, Little, Gollott,  
Kirby, Moffatt, Thames

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3046

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF SPECIAL FUNDS TO DEFRAY THE  
2 EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION FOR  
3 FISCAL YEAR 2007.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
7 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Employment Security  
8 Commission or its successor, for the purpose of defraying the  
9 expenses incurred by said commission for the fiscal year beginning  
10 July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007..... \$ 189,553,630.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
12 Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below shall be  
13 expended for the respective major objects or purposes of  
14 expenditure:

15 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

16 Personal Services:

17	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits..	\$	49,700,152.00
18	Travel and Subsistence.....		1,759,416.00
19	Contractual Services.....		55,764,392.00
20	Commodities.....		2,995,507.00
21	Capital Outlay:		
22	Other Than Equipment.....		1,035,000.00
23	Equipment.....		6,774,153.00
24	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....		<u>71,525,010.00</u>
25	Total.....	\$	189,553,630.00

26 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

27 Permanent: Full Time..... 811

28	Part Time.....	365
29	Time-Limited: Full Time.....	0
30	Part Time.....	0

31 Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation  
32 Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase  
33 equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation  
34 Plan or Twelve Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00), whichever is greater,  
35 beginning on July 1, 2006.

36 Pursuant to policies established by the State Personnel  
37 Board, agency heads may, on a case by case basis and within funds  
38 available, recommend equity salary adjustments to Fiscal Year 2006  
39 agency appropriation acts where application of limitations result  
40 in awarding one employee a salary increase greater than another  
41 employee within the same agency, with the same job classification  
42 series and greater longevity.

43 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of  
44 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to  
45 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal  
46 Services" for Fiscal Year 2008 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2007  
47 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions  
48 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the  
49 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the  
50 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall  
51 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all  
52 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this  
53 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure  
54 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual  
55 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2007 appropriation for "Personal  
56 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds.  
57 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal  
58 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency  
59 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this  
60 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2007 "Personal Services"

61 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
62 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation  
63 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
64 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

78 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
79 Section 1, the following sum shall be derived from money in the  
80 Unemployment Trust Fund, made available to this state under  
81 Section 903(d) of the Social Security Act, as amended, to the  
82 Department of Employment Security to be deposited in the  
83 Employment Security Administration Fund and used by the Department  
84 of Employment Security for the following purposes:

85 1. Payment of various One-Stop Administration expenses that  
86 support the service delivery of employment and workforce  
87 information services. This includes, but is not limited to, the  
88 following activities:

- 89 a. Staff for delivery of reemployment services to UI  
90 claimants, including group job search assistance  
91 and staff-assisted referrals to jobs.  
92 b. Equipment and resources for resource rooms.  
93 c. Payment for rent, utilities, and maintenance of

94 facilities, including common spaces such as  
95 resource rooms, reception areas, conference areas,  
96 etc.

97 d. Payment of shared costs for operation of local One-  
98 Stop Career Centers, including payment for One-  
99 Stop operators.

100 e. Purchase of computer equipment, network equipment,  
101 telecommunications equipment, application  
102 development, and other technology resources.

103 f. Training, technical assistance, and professional  
104 development of staff who deliver employment and  
105 workforce information services.

106 g. Access Improvement costs for individuals with  
107 disabilities, including remodeling or retrofitting  
108 One-Stop Career Centers and purchasing appropriate  
109 software, hardware, furniture and supplies.

110 2. Administration of the Unemployment Compensation (UC) law  
111 and its public employment service (ES) offices. This includes,  
112 but is not limited to, the following uses:

113 a. ES and UI automation. This includes purchases,  
114 modifications, or automation of computer related  
115 systems and related costs.

116 b. UI and ES Performance Improvement costs.

117 c. Fraud and Abuse Reduction costs.

118 d. UI Claims Filing and Payment Methods Improvement  
119 costs.

120 e. Under the direction of the Office of Building,  
121 Grounds and Real Property Management to acquire  
122 lands and construct buildings thereon or improve  
123 existing buildings to be used as offices.

124 The funds in this section are authorized for the fiscal year  
125 beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007.....

126 .....\$ 53,000,000.00.

127           The funds authorized in this Section shall be requisitioned  
128 by the Department of Employment Security from the Unemployment  
129 Trust Fund maintained by the Secretary of the Treasury of the  
130 United States as needed for the payment of obligations incurred  
131 under this appropriation, and such monies shall be deposited in  
132 the Employment Security Administration Fund in accordance with the  
133 provisions of Section 71-5-457, Mississippi Code of 1972.

134           **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, a total of  
135 One Million Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$1,035,000.00) is  
136 provided for the purpose of constructing and/or lease purchasing a  
137 new headquarters facility for the Mississippi Employment Security  
138 Commission, and paying for any costs associated with the  
139 construction of facilities. The funds authorized in this section  
140 shall be under the direction of the Bureau of Building, Grounds  
141 and Real Property Management.

142           **SECTION 5.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
143 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
144 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
145 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
146 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
147 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

148           **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
149 and after July 1, 2006.