## **REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

## MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 1572: Appropriation; Department of Environmental Quality.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5	SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be		
б	necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State		
7	General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support and		
8	maintenance of the Department of Environmental Quality for the		
9	fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007		
10	\$ 13,085,979.00.		
11	SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be		
12	necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special		
13	fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of		
14	Environmental Quality which is comprised of special source funds		
15	collected by or otherwise available to the department, for the		
16	support of the various offices of the department for the fiscal		
17	year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007		
18	\$ 122,635,031.00.		
19	SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of		
20	Section 1 and Section 2, the following positions are authorized:		
21	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:		
22	Permanent: Full Time 289		
23	Part Time0		
24	Time-Limited: Full Time 229		
25	Part Time 0		

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Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation Plan or Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever is greater, with not more than one-half (1/2) to be awarded on July 1, 2006, with the remainder to be awarded on January 1, 2007.

32 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of 33 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal 34 35 Services" for Fiscal Year 2008 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2007 36 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions 37 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the 38 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall 39 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all 40 41 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this 42 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure 43 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual 44 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2007 appropriation for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds. 45 46 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal 47 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency 48 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2007 "Personal Services" 49 50 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation 51 52 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this provision are met. 53

Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written

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

67 Unless expressly authorized herein by the Legislature, no funds appropriated shall be expended to pay expenses incurred by 68 69 more than four (4) employees or other representatives of the 70 agency for attending the same conference, seminar or workshop, 71 either in state or out of state; however, such funds may be expended for expenses incurred by more than four (4) employees or 72 73 other representatives for attendance at the same conference, 74 seminar or workshop (a) if attendance is required in order to 75 maintain professional certification or licensure, which 76 certification or licensure is required by the employees' job 77 descriptions or by law, or (b) if such expenditure has received 78 the prior written approval of the Department of Finance and 79 Administration.

80 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Department of Environmental Quality shall maintain complete 81 82 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be 83 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal 84 Year 2006. It is further the intention of the Legislature that 85 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 shall be 86 87 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail 88 89 provided during the Fiscal Year 2007 budget request process.

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SECTION 5. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance 90 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of 91 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized 92 93 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the 94 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized, 95 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted 96 performance measures provided below: 97 FY2007 98 Performance Measures Target 99 Pollution Control 100 Air-Compliance Assurance Activities (Actions) 900 Air-Permits Issued (Permits) 250 101 102 Asbestos-Persons Certified (Persons) 1,200 103 RCRA-Inspections (Actions) 150 104 RCRA-Permit Actions Taken (Actions) 2 460 105 Waste Tires-Compliance Assurance (Actions) 106 Solid Waste-Pemits Processed (Permits) 65 107 SRF Water-Inspections (Sites) 1,700 SRF Water-NPDES Permits Issued (Permits) 108 350 109 SRF Admin-Fed/State Match Funds (%) 90 Construction Grants 110 111 Federal/State Match Funds Awarded (%) 90 112 Recipient Compliance with Loan Agreement 90 113 Land & Water 114 Water Levels Measured (Actions) 500 115 Water Withdrawal Permits Issued 1,200 Driller Licenses Issued 300 116 117 Dams Inspected 25 Dams Designs Reviewed 50 118 119 Geology 120 Quadrangles Mapped (Sites) 9 121 Test Holes Drilled 12 06/HR05/HB1572CR.J \* HR05/ OHB1572CR.J\* (H)AP (S)AP PAGE 4

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123 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets 124 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the 125 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget 126 Committee for Fiscal Year 2008.

127 SECTION 6. It is the intent of the Legislature that the 128 Department of Environmental Quality shall have authority to escalate the various budgets in both funds and positions, with the 129 approval of the State Fiscal Officer, from any special funds 130 131 collected or available, in the current fiscal year or any prior 132 fiscal year, not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), 133 to the agency for expenditure. Upon such approval, the Department 134 of Environmental Quality may expend such funds in the manner 135 authorized by law.

136 The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental 137 Quality shall submit to the Department of Finance and 138 Administration a certified statement providing a detailed 139 explanation for any escalation, including a justification for the 140 establishment of any new positions or reclassification of existing 141 positions and the existence of any required matching funds for 142 those positions, and an assessment of the impact on the agency's 143 general fund budget for the three (3) fiscal years following the 144 fiscal year in which the escalation is requested.

145 **SECTION 7.** It shall be unlawful for any officer, employee or 146 other person whatsoever to use or permit or authorize the use of 147 any automobile or any other motor vehicle owned by the State of 148 Mississippi or any department, agency or institution thereof for 149 any purpose other than upon the official business of the State of 150 Mississippi or any agency, department or institution thereof.

151 It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles 152 authorized to be owned and operated by this agency shall comply 153 with Sections 25-1-77 through 25-1-93, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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**SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 and allocated in Section 3, an amount no greater than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) shall be derived from the Pollution Emergency Fund within the Pollution Operating Fund and shall be transferred to the Department of Finance and Administration.

160 SECTION 9. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 and 161 allocated in Section 3, an amount no greater than One Hundred 162 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) shall be derived from the 163 Pollution Emergency Fund within the Pollution Operating Fund for 164 transfer to the Department of Environmental Quality - Office of 165 Administrative Services for support of Legal Division 166 environmental protection activities.

SECTION 10. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 and allocated in Section 3, an amount no greater than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be derived from the Pollution Emergency Fund within the Pollution Operating Fund for transfer to the Department of Environmental Quality - Office of Pollution Control for support of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Grants Program.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) 174 SECTION 11. 175 may request that the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) staff 176 shall provide an economic viability assessment for any complete 177 application or group of related complete applications submitted to DEQ after July 1, 1999, for which DEQ estimates that DEQ will be 178 179 required to devote extraordinary effort to process the application 180 or group of related applications within the one hundred and eighty 181 (180) days required by Section 49-17-29(3)(c). For purposes of this paragraph, "extraordinary effort" means the constant 182 183 dedication of more than three (3) full-time equivalent positions 184 for a period of at least one hundred eighty (180) days. The 185 economic viability assessment shall include, but not be limited

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to: (i) an analysis of the current and future market viability of 186 187 the project concerning which application(s) has been made to DEQ; 188 and (ii) an analysis of the applicant's economic ability to 189 construct, develop, maintain and operate the project as described 190 in the application(s) submitted to DEQ. If the economic viability 191 assessment concludes that the project is not economically viable 192 for any reason, DEQ shall suspend processing the permit application(s), notwithstanding the provisions of Section 193 49-17-29(3)(c). Within thirty (30) days of the decision of MDA 194 195 staff, the permit applicant may present any additional information 196 on its behalf to the Executive Director of MDA, and the Executive Director shall review the MDA staff assessment. If additional 197 198 information is received in writing from the applicant, the Executive Director of MDA shall make a decision in review of the 199 200 MDA staff decision within sixty (60) days of the staff decision, 201 and the decision of the Executive Director of MDA shall be the 202 final administrative action of MDA in the matter.

SECTION 12. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 203 204 Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality 205 shall have authority to transfer cash from one special fund 206 treasury fund to another special fund treasury fund under the 207 control of the Department of Environmental Quality. The purpose 208 of this authority is to more efficiently use available cash 209 It is further the intention of the Legislature that the reserves. 210 Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall submit written justification for the transfer to the 211 212 Legislative Budget Office and the Department of Finance and 213 Administration on or before the fifteenth of the month prior to the effective date of the transfer. 214

215 **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that 216 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the 217 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things

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**SECTION 14.** Of the funds appropriated herein, it is the intent of the Legislature, subject to the approval of the Environmental Protection Agency, that the Department of Environmental Quality shall pay debt service on bonds issued to provide state matching funds for the State Revolving Loan Fund with interest earnings derived from the fund.

SECTION 15. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by 229 230 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon 231 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal 232 233 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the 234 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law. SECTION 16. This act shall take effect and be in force from 235 236 and after July 1, 2006.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE	CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Stringer	Gordon
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Broomfield	Frazier
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Middleton	Jackson (32nd)

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