

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. 1583: Appropriation; Veterans' Home Purchase Board.

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:

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
7 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
8 Treasury to the credit of the Veterans' Home Purchase Board's
9 revolving fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
10 Veterans' Home Purchase Board and making new home loans as
11 authorized by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and
12 ending June 30, 2007..... \$ 43,923,834.00.

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

17 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

18 Personal Services:

19 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits.. \$ 758,054.00

20 Travel and Subsistence..... 27,970.00

21 Contractual Services..... 324,150.00

22 Commodities..... 47,400.00

23 Capital Outlay:

24 Other Than Equipment..... 0.00

25 Equipment..... 34,500.00

26 Subsidies, Loans and Grants..... 42,731,760.00

27 Total..... \$ 43,923,834.00

28 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

29	Permanent:	Full Time.....	16
30		Part Time.....	0
31	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
32		Part Time.....	0

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

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

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

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

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

74 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
75 Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall maintain complete accounting
76 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
77 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
78 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
79 2006. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
80 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 shall be submitted to
81 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
82 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
83 during the Fiscal Year 2007 budget request process.

84 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the sum
85 of Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00), or so much thereof as
86 may be available, shall come from the issuance and sale of revenue
87 bonds authorized by Chapter 501, Laws of 1985.

88 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
89 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
90 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things

91 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
92 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
93 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
94 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
95 made without competitive bids.

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

102 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
103 and after July 1, 2006.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Weathersby

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Gollott

X (SIGNED)
Little