

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. 1586: Appropriation; Pearl River Basin Development District.

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
6 necessary, is hereby authorized and approved for expenditure out
7 of any funds which are received by or otherwise become available
8 to the Pearl River Basin Development District, for the purpose of
9 defraying the expenses of the district for the fiscal year
10 beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007.....
11 \$ 2,117,514.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds approved for expenditure under the
13 provisions of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

14 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

15	Permanent:	Full Time.....	12
16		Part Time.....	3
17	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
18		Part Time.....	0

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

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

47 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
48 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
49 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
50 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
51 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
52 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
53 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
54 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
55 appropriated level.

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

60 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
61 Pearl River Basin Development District shall maintain complete
62 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
63 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
64 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
65 Year 2006. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
66 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 shall be
67 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
68 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
69 provided during the Fiscal Year 2007 budget request process.

70 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
71 Director of the Pearl River Basin Development District shall be
72 authorized to escalate, budget and expend funds from any source,
73 not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), for the
74 purpose of maintaining the Lower Pearl Restoration Project in
75 accordance with the Project Cooperation Agreement with the United
76 States Army Corps of Engineers and to maintain the South Jackson
77 Clearing Project in an area along the Pearl River in Hinds County
78 and Rankin County, in accordance with rules and regulations of the
79 Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent
80 with the escalation of federal funds.

81 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
82 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
83 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
84 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
85 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
86 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to

87 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
88 made without competitive bids.

89 **SECTION 6.** The funds herein approved for expenditure, except
90 and less an amount approved by the State Fiscal Officer which
91 shall be sufficient to cover disbursements for current operations,
92 shall be deposited at interest with any official depository of the
93 state at a rate of interest numerically not less than one percent
94 (1%) below the bank discount rate on United States Treasury bills
95 of comparable maturity as determined by the State Treasurer.

96 **SECTION 7.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall
97 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer
98 or officers, in the manner provided by law or in accordance with
99 the provisions of a valid trust indenture.

100 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
101 and after July 1, 2006.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Read

(NOT SIGNED)
Middleton

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Gollott

X (SIGNED)
Thames