## **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. 1606: Appropriation; Department of Transportation.

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 Department of Transportation Funds,				
9	for the purpose of defraying the administrative expenses of the				
10	Mississippi Department of Transportation for the fiscal year				
11	beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007				
12	\$ 919,640,544.00.				
13	SECTION 2. The following offices are supported by the funds				
14	appropriated in Section 1: The Office of Administrative Services,				
15	the Office of Highways, the Office of Aeronautics and Rails and				
16	the Office of Enforcement. Of the funds appropriated under the				
17	provisions of Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below				
18	shall be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of				
19	expenditure:				
20	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:				
21	Personal Services:				
22	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits \$ 148,855,688.00				
23	Travel and Subsistence 2,918,434.00				
24	Contractual Services 110,934,364.00				
25	Commodities				
26	Capital Outlay:				
27	Other Than Equipment				
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28	Equipment			13,500,000.00
29	Subsidies, Loa	ns and Grants	· · · · · ·	94,832,800.00
30	Total		···· \$	919,640,544.00
31	AUTHORIZED POSIT	IONS:		
32	Permanent:	Full Time	3,466	
33		Part Time	19	
34	Time-Limited:	Full Time	0	
35		Part Time	0	

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.

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

06/HR05/HB1606CR.J \* HR05/OHB1606CR.J\* PAGE 2 (RM) 60 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which 61 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation 62 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until 63 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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.

77 SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated to the Mississippi Department of Transportation under the provisions of Section 1 and 78 79 authorized for expenditure in Section 2, the following amounts 80 shall be available for expenditure in the program budgets as 81 required by Section 27-103-127, Mississippi Code of 1972: 82 Administration and Other Expenses.....\$ 52,179,158.00 83 Construction.....\$ 637,611,095.00 84 Maintenance.....\$ 153,260,650.00 85 Debt Service.....\$ 30,220,000.00 86 Law Enforcement.....\$ 13,002,884.00 Aeronautics, Rails and other.....\$ 33,366,757.00 87 88 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 89 Mississippi Department of Transportation shall maintain complete

91 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be

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accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all

92 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal 93 Year 2006. It is further the intention of the Legislature that 94 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 shall be 95 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format 96 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail 97 provided during the Fiscal Year 2007 budget request process.

98 SECTION 5. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and 99 authorized for expenditure in Section 2, it is the intention of 100 the Legislature that Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars 101 (\$250,000.00) shall be transferred to the Department of 102 Agriculture and Commerce for the Beaver Control or Eradication 103 Program during the Fiscal Year 2007.

SECTION 6. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act, the Mississippi Department of Transportation shall expend such funds as necessary to conduct project planning. Such project planning shall apply to all preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction projects of the department and, at a minimum, shall consist of policies for the oversight and management of project cost which:

(a) Establish a reasonable cost estimate for each project. For purposes of this provision, projects include preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction;

(b) Capture and retain the initial project costestimates for comparison with final actual expenditures;

(c) Require that any changes to a cost estimate for a project will be reviewed and approved by district or central office personnel. Such personnel shall be responsible for signing any revision, and providing a narrative description of the reasons for approving a revision;

122 (d) Capture the cost of consultants, engineers,123 attorneys, contract appraisers and other technical and

06/HR05/HB1606CR.J \* HR05/OHB1606CR.J\* (H)AP (S)AP PAGE 4 A1/2 (RM) 124 professional contractors used in preliminary engineering, 125 right-of-way acquisition and construction projects.

126 SECTION 7. None of the funds appropriated under the 127 provisions of Section 1 of this act may be expended by the 128 Department of Transportation for construction of new highways if 129 such highway segment is less than ten (10) miles in length unless:

The explanation and justification for letting such 130 (a) a contract for a length of less than ten (10) miles is entered 131 upon the official minutes of the Transportation Commission; 132

133 (b) The commission, within ten (10) working days after 134 entry of its explanation and justification upon its minutes, gives 135 notice, by United States First Class Mail, and provides a copy of 136 such entry upon its minutes, to the Chairman of the Transportation Committee of the Mississippi House of Representatives and the 137 Chairman of the Mississippi Senate Highways and Transportation 138 139 Committee.

140 SECTION 8. Of the funds appropriated to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Three Hundred Thousand Dollars 141 142 (\$300,000.00) shall be used for the Statewide Litter Prevention 143 Program.

SECTION 9. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 144 145 Mississippi Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to 146 receive, budget and expend in the Capital Outlay major object of 147 expenditure an amount not to exceed Six Million Dollars 148 (\$6,000,000.00) resulting from funds received from third party 149 damages.

150 SECTION 10. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and 151 allocated in Section 2, not less than Eighty Million Dollars (\$80,000,000.00) shall be expended for contracted maintenance 152 153 overlay and pavement rehabilitation.

154 SECTION 11. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 155 Mississippi Department of Transportation shall have the authority

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to escalate its budget in the Capital Outlay - Other Than 156 157 Equipment or the Commodities major objects of expenditure in the Maintenance Program, with funds which were obligated in Fiscal 158 159 Year 2006 for maintenance overlay projects and maintenance repair 160 projects but not completed by the end of Fiscal Year 2006, in an 161 amount not to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00). Any 162 escalation made from the authority granted in this Section shall be reported to the Chairmen of the Appropriations Committees of 163 164 the Mississippi Senate and the Mississippi House of 165 Representatives, the Chairman of the Highways and Transportation 166 Committee of the Mississippi Senate, the Chairman of the Transportation Committee of the Mississippi House of 167 168 Representatives, and the Legislative Budget Office, within fifteen (15) working days after said escalation. 169

170 SECTION 12. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 171 Mississippi Department of Transportation shall have the authority 172 to escalate and expend funds from any proceeds arising from participation in drug seizure activities not to exceed One Hundred 173 174 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00).

175 SECTION 13. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 176 Mississippi Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to 177 transfer between the various programs in an amount not to exceed 178 ten Percent (10%) of the amount allocated in Section 3, except 179 that no transfers shall be authorized which increase the 180 "Administrative and Other Expenses" Program or which decrease the 181 "Maintenance" Program.

182 SECTION 14. It is the intention of the Legislature that the 183 Mississippi Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to escalate its budget for Fiscal Year 2007 for funds appropriated in 184 185 Fiscal Year 2006 but not expended in Fiscal Year 2006 by the Mississippi Department of Transportation in the "Capital 186 187 Outlay-Equipment" category in an amount not to exceed Two Million

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188 Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00) as authorized in 189 House Bill No. 111, 2005 Second Extraordinary Session, for Fiscal 190 Year 2006.

191 SECTION 15. Of the funds appropriated under Section 1 of 192 this act, the Mississippi Department of Transportation shall 193 expend so much thereof as may be necessary to adjust and/or 194 relocate electric transmission lines located along and within the 195 right-of-way of the construction project designated as the widening of State Route 43 from State Route 12 to Blackjack Road, 196 197 STP-8925-00-002 (102435-201000), all within the City of Kosciusko, 198 Attala County.

**SECTION 16.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Department of Transportation shall have the authority to escalate its budget and expend funds not to exceed Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) received from other public or private entities as reimbursements for payments made on federal projects.

**SECTION 17.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Department of Transportation shall have the authority to escalate its budget and expend funds not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) from proceeds made available to the department for the construction of a new maintenance facility in Itawamba County.

SECTION 18. It is the intention of the Legislature that no funds in the Treasury to the credit of the Department of Transportation shall be transferred by the Treasury Department to make payment on general obligation bond debt service obligations of the state unless such funds are to be repaid during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

217 **SECTION 19.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the 218 Mississippi Department of Transportation is authorized to expend 219 an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars

06/HR05/HB1606CR.J \* HR05/OHB1606CR.J\* (H)AP (S)AP PAGE 7 (RM) 220 (\$500,000.00) to conduct a study on monorail transportation in 221 Tunica and Desoto Counties.

SECTION 20. It is the intention of the Legislature that none 222 223 of the funds appropriated above shall be expended unless members 224 of the Mississippi Senate and House of Representatives are 225 notified at least five (5) days prior to a public ceremony 226 announcing the award of any grant in their district or any public 227 announcement of ceremony regarding the groundbreaking or opening 228 of a facility, roadway or bridge for which the Legislature has 229 made funds available. Any signage regarding any public event or 230 any new facility, roadway or bridge shall include the following 231 language: "Funds were made available for this project by the 232 Mississippi State Legislature."

SECTION 21. It is the intention of the Legislature that 233 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the 234 235 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things 236 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price, quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind 237 238 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to 239 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are 240 made without competitive bids.

SECTION 22. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the Mississippi Department of Transportation is authorized to expend an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) for the relocation of utilities involved in the Chickasaway Natural Gas District.

SECTION 23. The Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to expend available funds on technology or equipment upgrades or replacements when it will generate savings through efficiency or when the savings generated from such upgrades or replacements exceed expenditures thereof. 251 SECTION 24. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by 252 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the 253 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal 254 255 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the 256 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law. 257 SECTION 25. This act shall take effect and be in force from 258 and after July 1, 2006.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE	CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Stringer	Gordon
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Miles	Little
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Gadd	Frazier