

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

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

S. B. No. 3034: Appropriation; Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory.

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

- 1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House 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 appropriated out of any money in the State
7 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Institute for Forest
8 Inventory which is comprised of special source funds and donations
9 collected by or otherwise available to the Institute for the
10 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Institute for the period
11 beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007.....
12 \$ 367,478.00.

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 under the authority of the State Personnel Board:

16 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

17	Permanent:	Full Time.....	3
18		Part Time.....	0
19	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
20		Part Time.....	0

21 Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation
22 Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase
23 equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation
24 Plan or Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever is greater,

25 with not more than one-half (1/2) to be awarded on July 1, 2006,
26 with the remainder to be awarded on January 1, 2007.

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

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

56 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
57 appropriated level.

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

62 **SECTION 3.** This appropriation is made for the purpose of
63 providing funds to defray the expenses of the Mississippi
64 Institute for Forest Inventory as established in Section
65 49-19-403, Mississippi Code of 1972.

66 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
67 Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory is hereby authorized to
68 accept, budget and expend funds, not to exceed One Million Dollars
69 (\$1,000,000.00), from any source in accordance with rules and
70 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a
71 manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

72 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
73 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
74 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
75 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
76 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
77 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
78 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
79 made without competitive bids.

80 **SECTION 6.** It is legislative intent to ensure beneficial
81 information reaches as many Mississippians as possible. Further,
82 it is legislative intent that the expenditure of public funds for
83 this purpose be accomplished in an efficient and effective manner.

84 Therefore, state agencies as standard procedure, will observe
85 the following criteria:

86 (1) Develop goals and desired result for a campaign.

87 (2) Evaluate effectiveness through respected advertising
88 standards, including market reach and cost effectiveness.

89 (3) Seek public service announcements, which would be aired
90 by media without cost.

91 (4) Itemize and justify professional assistance and related
92 expenses for creative and production costs outside of the actual
93 media expenditures.

94 (5) Utilize Mississippi owned media companies when feasible.

95 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
96 Section 2, Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) shall be
97 derived from the Budget Contingency Fund created in Section 27-
98 103-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the purpose of defraying
99 the expenses of the Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory.

100 **SECTION 8.** Upon passage of Senate Bill 2724, 2006 Regular
101 Legislative Session, the funds provided in the sections of this
102 act shall be utilized by the Forestry Commission in the format
103 described for the fiscal year 2007.

104 **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
105 the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or funds
106 as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal
107 Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants
108 upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers
109 in the manner provided by law.

110 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
111 and after July 1, 2006.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Jackson (32nd)

X (SIGNED)
Williamson

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Eaton

(NOT SIGNED)
Shows