

By: Representatives Read, Martinson,  
Broomfield, Brown, Davis, Denny, Huddleston,  
Middleton, Miles, Weathersby

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1655

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE  
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE  
3 VETERANS' HOME PURCHASE BOARD AND MAKING NEW HOME LOANS AS  
4 AUTHORIZED BY LAW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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, 2007, and  
12 ending June 30, 2008..... \$ 45,014,052.00.

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.. \$ 848,272.00  
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 Vehicles..... 0.00  
27 Wireless Communication Devices..... 0.00  
28 Subsidies, Loans and Grants..... 43,731,760.00

29                   Total..... \$       45,014,052.00

30       AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

31	Permanent:	Full Time.....	16
32		Part Time.....	0
33	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
34		Part Time.....	0

35       Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation  
36 Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase  
37 equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation  
38 Plan or One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever  
39 is greater.

40       With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of  
41 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to  
42 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal  
43 Services" for Fiscal Year 2009 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2008  
44 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions  
45 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2009 budget by the  
46 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the  
47 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall  
48 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all  
49 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this  
50 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure  
51 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual  
52 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriation for "Personal  
53 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds.  
54 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal  
55 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency  
56 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this  
57 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2008 "Personal Services"  
58 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
59 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation  
60 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
61 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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

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

75 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
76 Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall maintain complete accounting  
77 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
78 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the  
79 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
80 2007. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
81 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to  
82 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of  
83 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided  
84 during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request process.

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

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

95 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
96 made without competitive bids.

97       **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
98 Section 1, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be derived  
99 from the Working Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund for the purpose  
100 of making additional monies available for loan requests for  
101 veteran applicants.

102       **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
103 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
104 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
105 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
106 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
107 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

108       **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
109 and after July 1, 2007.