

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. 1654: Appropriation; Public Employees' Retirement System-administrative expenses; maintenance and operation of building.

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:

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
8 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
9 Treasury to the credit of the Administrative Expense Account of
10 the Public Employees' Retirement System for the purpose of
11 defraying the administrative expenses of the Board of Trustees of
12 the Public Employees' Retirement System, or out of any money in
13 the State Treasury to the credit of the Retirement System Building
14 Account of the Public Employees' Retirement System for the purpose
15 of maintenance and general operation of the Retirement System
16 Building, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending
17 June 30, 2008..... \$ 11,178,455.00.

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

22 **MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:**

23 Personal Services:

| | | |
|--|----|--------------|
| 24 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits.. | \$ | 7,767,155.00 |
| 25 Travel and Subsistence..... | | 75,000.00 |
| 26 Contractual Services..... | | 2,959,000.00 |
| 27 Commodities..... | | 300,000.00 |

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|----|---------------|
| 28 | Capital Outlay: | | |
| 29 | Other Than Equipment..... | | 0.00 |
| 30 | Equipment..... | | 77,300.00 |
| 31 | Vehicles..... | | 0.00 |
| 32 | Wireless Communication Devices..... | | 0.00 |
| 33 | Subsidies, Loans and Grants..... | | 0.00 |
| 34 | Total..... | \$ | 11,178,455.00 |

35 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----------------|-----|
| 36 | Permanent: | Full Time..... | 149 |
| 37 | | Part Time..... | 1 |
| 38 | Time-Limited: | Full Time..... | 0 |
| 39 | | Part Time..... | 0 |

40 Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation
41 Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase
42 equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation
43 Plan or One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever
44 is greater, to be awarded on July 1, 2007.

45 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
46 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
47 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
48 Services" for Fiscal Year 2009 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2008
49 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
50 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the
51 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
52 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
53 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
54 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
55 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
56 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
57 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations for "Personal
58 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds
59 and educational benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any

60 action to change "Personal Services", the State Personnel Board
61 determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause
62 the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year
63 2008 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then
64 only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or
65 the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State
66 Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
67 provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
68 will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
69 report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
70 order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.

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

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

84 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
85 Board of Trustees of the Public Employees' Retirement System shall
86 maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the
87 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such
88 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as
89 maintained for Fiscal Year 2007. It is further the intention of
90 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year
91 2009 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee

92 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level
93 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request
94 process.

95 **SECTION 4.** In accordance with the purposes of this article,
96 there shall be established in the State Treasury the Public
97 Employees' Retirement System Building Repair and Maintenance Fund,
98 into which shall be deposited all funds collected as rental income
99 from the building owned by the system located at 301 North
100 President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. At the end of each fiscal
101 year, any and all unexpended funds shall be transferred to the
102 Administrative Budget Fund of the system.

103 It is the intention of the Legislature that the system have
104 the authority to escalate the Public Employees' Retirement System
105 Building Repair and Maintenance Fund in an amount not to exceed
106 Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) for repair and
107 maintenance of the buildings owned by the system. All
108 expenditures from the Public Employees' Retirement System Building
109 Repair and Maintenance Fund shall be in accordance with this
110 article and for the purposes designated herein.

111 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
112 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
113 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
114 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
115 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
116 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
117 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
118 made without competitive bids.

119 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
120 Executive Director of the Public Employees' Retirement System may
121 increase major objects of expenditure in total amounts not to
122 exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the appropriated amount of
123 each major object of expenditure, provided that other major

124 objects of expenditure are decreased by a corresponding dollar
125 amount and provided the Executive Director of the Mississippi
126 Department of Finance and Administration also approves with
127 written authorization. However, no transfers shall be authorized
128 which increase the major object of expenditure "Salaries, Wages
129 and Fringe Benefits."

130 **SECTION 7.** In addition to all other sums herein
131 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be
132 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury
133 to the credit of the Administrative Expense Account of the Public
134 Employees' Retirement System, for the purpose of defraying those
135 expenses associated with consultant services regarding a
136 replacement computer system, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
137 2007, and ending June 30, 2008..... \$ 480,458.00.

138 **SECTION 8.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
139 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
140 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
141 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
142 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
143 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

144 **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
145 and after July 1, 2007.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE ADMINISTRATIVE

3 EXPENSES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'
4 RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE
5 RETIREMENT SYSTEM BUILDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Huddleston

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Frazier

X (SIGNED)
Davis