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. 1656: Appropriation; Board of Nursing.

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

- 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 appropriated out of any money in the special	
7	fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Board	
8	of Nursing, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the board	ł
9	for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending	
10	June 30, 2008\$ 2,301,672.00	
11	SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of	=
12	Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below shall be	
13	expended for the respective major objects or purposes of	
14	expenditure:	
15	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:	
16	Personal Services:	
17	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits \$ 1,595,172.00)
18	Travel and Subsistence)
19	Contractual Services)
20	Commodities)
21	Capital Outlay:	
22	Other Than Equipment)
23	Equipment)
24	Vehicles)
25	Wireless Communication Devices 0.00)
26	Subsidies, Loans and Grants 150,000.00	<u>)</u>
	07/HR05/HB1656CR.1J * HR05/ OHB1656CR. 1J* (H)AP (S)AP	

27	Total\$ 2,301,672.00
28	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:
29	Permanent: Full Time 30
30	Part Time0
31	Time-Limited: Full Time
32	Part Time0
33	Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation
34	Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase
35	equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation
36	Plan or One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever
37	is greater, to be awarded on July 1, 2007.
38	With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
39	the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
40	make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
41	Services" for Fiscal Year 2009 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2008
42	funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
43	are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the
44	Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
45	Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
46	determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
47	appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
48	act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
49	that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
50	cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations for "Personal
51	Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds
52	and educational benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any
53	action to change "Personal Services", the State Personnel Board
54	determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause
55	the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year
56	2008 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then
57	only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or
58	the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State

- 59 Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
- 60 provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
- 61 will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
- 62 report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
- 63 order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.
- 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
- 67 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 68 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. 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.
- 73 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
- 74 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are
- 75 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
- 76 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.
- 77 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 78 Mississippi Board of Nursing shall maintain complete accounting
- 79 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
- 80 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
- 81 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
- 82 2007. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
- 83 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to
- 84 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
- 85 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
- 86 during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request process.
- 87 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
- 88 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
- 89 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
- 90 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,

- quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind 91
- 92 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
- 93 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
- 94 made without competitive bids.
- 95 SECTION 5. Of the funds provided for herein, One Hundred
- 96 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) shall be transferred to the
- Office of Nursing Workforce. 97
- SECTION 6. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by 98
- the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the 99
- 100 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 101
- 102 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
- proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law. 103
- 104 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 105 and after July 1, 2007.

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

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Stringer Gordon

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Gollott Read

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Davis Moffatt