REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

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(RM)

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

H. B. No. 1674: Appropriation; Public Service Commission.

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:

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 Public Service Commission Regulation			
8	Fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi			
9	Public Service Commission for the fiscal year beginning			
10	July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008			
11	\$ 5,544,549.00.			
12	SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of			
13	Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below shall be			
14	expended for the respective major objects or purposes of			
15	expenditure:			
16	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:			
17	Personal Services:			
18	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits \$ 3,987,923.00			
19	Travel and Subsistence			
20	Contractual Services			
21	Commodities			
22	Capital Outlay:			
23	Other Than Equipment			
24	Equipment			
25	Vehicles			
26	Wireless Communication Devices 0.00			
	07/HR05/HB1674CR.1J * HR05/OHB1674CR.1J* (H)AP (S)AP			

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27	Subsidies, Loa	ns and Grants	· · · · · · · · · · · <u> </u>	7,000.00
28	Total		\$	5,544,549.00
29	AUTHORIZED POSITIC	ons:		
30	Permanent:	Full Time	72	
31		Part Time	1	
32	Time-Limited:	Full Time	0	
33		Part Time	0	
34	Funds are prov	rided herein to adjus	st the Variable	Compensation
35	Plan to ensure that	all full-time emplo	oyees receive a	pay increase
36	equal to the realig	nment component of t	the Variable Co	mpensation
37	Plan or One Thousan	d Five Hundred Dolla	ars (\$1,500.00)	, whichever
38	is greater, to be a	warded on July 1, 20	007.	
39	With the funds	herein appropriated	d, it is the in	tention of
40	the Legislature tha	t it shall be the ag	gency's respons	ibility to
41	make certain that f	unds required to be	appropriated f	or "Personal
42	Services" for Fisca	l Year 2009 do not e	exceed Fiscal Y	ear 2008
43	funds appropriated	for that purpose, ur	nless programs	or positions
44	are added to the ag	ency's Fiscal Year 2	2008 budget by	the
45	Mississippi Legisla	ture. Based on data	a provided by t	he
46	Legislative Budget	Office, the State Pe	ersonnel Board	shall
47	determine and publi	sh the projected ann	nual cost to fu	lly fund all
48	appropriated positi	ons in compliance w	ith the provisi	ons of this
49	act. It shall be t	he responsibility of	f the agency he	ad to insure
50	that no single pers	onnel action increas	ses this projec	ted annual
51	cost and/or the Fis	cal Year 2008 approp	oriations for "	Personal
52	Services" when annu	alized, with the exc	ception of esca	lated funds
53	and educational ben	chmarks. If, at the	e time the agen	cy takes any
54	action to change "F	ersonal Services", t	the State Perso	nnel Board
55	determines that the	e agency has taken ar	n action which	would cause
56	the agency to excee	d this projected and	nual cost or th	e Fiscal Year
57	2008 "Personal Serv	rices" appropriated	level, when ann	ualized, then
58	only those actions	which reduce the pro	ojected annual	cost and/or

- 59 the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State
- 60 Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
- 61 provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
- 62 will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
- 63 report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
- 64 order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.
- Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
- 66 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
- 67 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
- 68 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 69 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
- 70 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
- 71 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
- 72 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
- 73 appropriated level.
- No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
- 75 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are
- 76 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
- 77 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.
- 78 **SECTION 3.** None of the funds herein appropriated by this act
- 79 to the Public Service Commission shall be expended for any purpose
- 80 that is not actually required or necessary for performing any of
- 81 the powers or duties of the Mississippi Public Service Commission
- 82 that are authorized by the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, state
- 83 or federal law, or rules or regulations that implement state or
- 84 federal law.
- 85 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 86 Public Service Commission shall maintain complete accounting and
- 87 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
- 88 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
- 89 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
- 90 2007. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the

91	agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to
92	the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
93	detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
94	during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request process.
95	SECTION 5. In addition to all other sums herein
96	appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be
97	necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury
98	to the credit of the Public Service Commission, for the purpose of
99	defraying the expenses of the Public Service Commission to
100	administer the Mississippi Telephone Solicitation Act, for the
101	fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008
102	\$ 160,000.00.
103	SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that
104	whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
105	purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
106	stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
107	quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
108	shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
109	the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
110	made without competitive bids.
111	SECTION 7. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
112	the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
113	credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
114	warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
115	Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
116	proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.
117	SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from
118	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 2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Stringer Gordon

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Read Gollott

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Kirby Denny