

28 Landowners who contract with the commission for such work shall
29 pay to the commission its actual cost for conducting such work.
30 Money received for this work by the commission shall be paid into
31 the State Treasury, and the State Treasurer shall deposit such
32 money in the "Forest Improvement Revolving Fund."

33 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
34 Sections 1 and 2, the following positions are authorized:

35 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

36	Permanent:	Full Time.....	585
37		Part Time.....	54
38	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	29
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 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
85 State Forestry Commission and the Mississippi Institute for Forest
86 Inventory shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records
87 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this
88 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of
89 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2007. It is further the
90 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for
91 Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative

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

95 **SECTION 5.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
96 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
97 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
98 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
99 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
100 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
101 performance measures provided below:

	FY2008
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
104 Fire Protection	
105 Number of Fires per Year (Events)	2,000
106 Average Size of Fire (Acres)	18
107 Forest Stewardship	
108 Land Reforested (Acres)	65,000
109 Landowners Assisted (Persons)	18,000
110 Public Outreach	
111 School/Youth Programs (Events)	50
112 Resource Analysis/Economic Development	
113 Economic Development Assistance Customers	
114 Served (Persons)	50
115 Economic Development Assist Reports (Reports)	100
116 Urban/Community Forestry Assistance	
117 Homeowners Assisted	2,625

118 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
119 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
120 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
121 Committee for Fiscal Year 2009.

122 **SECTION 6.** In addition to all other sums herein
123 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be

124 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
 125 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support of the
 126 Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory for the fiscal year
 127 beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008.....
 128 \$ 150,000.00.

129 **SECTION 7.** In addition to all other sums herein
 130 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be
 131 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
 132 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Institute for Forest
 133 Inventory which is comprised of special source funds and donations
 134 collected by or otherwise available to the Institute for the
 135 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Institute for the period
 136 beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008.....
 137 \$ 262,108.00.

138 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
 139 Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below shall be
 140 under the authority of the State Personnel Board:

141 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

142	Permanent:	Full Time.....	2
143		Part Time.....	0
144	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
145		Part Time.....	0

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

151 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
 152 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
 153 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
 154 Services" for Fiscal Year 2009 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2008
 155 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions

156 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the
157 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
158 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
159 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
160 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
161 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
162 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
163 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations for "Personal
164 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds
165 and educational benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any
166 action to change "Personal Services", the State Personnel Board
167 determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause
168 the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year
169 2008 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then
170 only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or
171 the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State
172 Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
173 provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
174 will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
175 report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
176 order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.

177 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
178 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
179 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
180 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
181 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
182 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
183 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
184 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
185 appropriated level.

186 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
187 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are

188 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
189 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

190 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
191 State Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate its budget in the
192 Capital Outlay: Equipment major object of expenditure, with funds
193 generated from the Forest Acreage Tax, and with funds generated
194 from the sale of old equipment and lease of tower sites an amount
195 not to exceed Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00).
196 It is further the intention of the Legislature that the State
197 Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate its budget in the
198 Subsidies, Loans and Grants major object of expenditure, with
199 funds generated from the Severance Tax to fund the Forest Resource
200 Development Program in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred
201 Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00). The receipt of these funds is
202 hereby authorized and approved, provided such receipts and
203 expenditures are reported and otherwise accounted for in
204 accordance with Section 27-103-101 et seq. and Section 27-104-1 et
205 seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.

206 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
207 State Forestry Commission be allowed to escalate part-time
208 positions up to one hundred (100) and expend funds not to exceed
209 Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) from any source of
210 funds that become available to the commission. This escalation
211 shall be in accordance with rules and regulations of the
212 Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent
213 with the escalation of federal funds. These positions may be used
214 to protect life and property during extended periods of extreme
215 wildfire occurrences of a minimum of fifty (50) fires per day.
216 The escalation of positions and the expenditure of these funds
217 shall be at the discretion of the State Forester, with written
218 notification to the State Personnel Board and the State Fiscal
219 Officer.

220 **SECTION 11.** The Forestry Commission has the authority to
221 purchase from the "General Services Administration" Fire Fighter
222 Catalog and any other GSA Catalog as long as the cost of such
223 items are less than the quotes received.

224 **SECTION 12.** There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
225 fund designated as the Volunteer Fire Department Equipment
226 Conversion Revolving Fund to be used by the State Forestry
227 Commission to assist in the conversion of vehicles acquired by the
228 State Forestry Commission through the Federal Excess Personal
229 Property Program or by Volunteer Fire Departments through other
230 means to adapt them for use in the suppression of wildland fires.
231 This assistance shall be in the form of fabrication of water tanks
232 or other accessories necessary for the operation of fire
233 suppression units, installation of piping and valves, painting or
234 other similar or associated component work necessary to place fire
235 suppression equipment into service. It is not for general vehicle
236 maintenance or repair.

237 The Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Conversion Revolving
238 Fund shall be funded by monies received from charges for work and
239 services performed for Volunteer Fire Departments by the State
240 Forestry Commission. Monies collected from such charges shall be
241 deposited into the Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Conversion
242 Revolving Fund. The State Treasurer shall make disbursements
243 therefrom for payment of materials, supplies and labor upon
244 requisition of the Forestry Commission and upon the issuance of
245 warrants therefor by the Department of Finance and Administration.

246 The amount of monies deposited into the Volunteer Fire
247 Department Equipment Conversion Fund through this work shall not
248 exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00). Funds in excess of
249 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be placed in the State
250 Forestry Commission's regular appropriated special funds. Monies

251 in this revolving fund are to be considered special funds and
252 shall be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next.

253 **SECTION 13.** There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
254 fund designated as the Camden State Forest Revolving Fund to be
255 used by the State Forestry Commission to direct forest management
256 activities on the Camden State Forest in Madison County,
257 Mississippi. The forest management activities will include, but
258 not be limited to, maintenance of property, timber sale activities
259 and regeneration work.

260 The Camden State Forest Revolving Fund shall be funded by
261 monies received from timber sales, leases, and any other source.
262 Monies collected from these income sources shall be deposited into
263 the Camden State Forest Revolving Fund. The State Treasurer shall
264 make disbursements therefrom for payments of materials, supplies
265 and labor upon requisition of the State Forestry Commission and
266 upon the issuance of warrants therefor by the Department of
267 Finance and Administration.

268 It is the intention of the Legislature that any revolving
269 funds in excess of the budgeted amount needed for the necessary
270 operation and maintenance of all properties under the direct
271 supervision and management of the State Forestry Commission shall
272 remain in the Camden State Forest Revolving Fund for use in future
273 years.

274 **SECTION 14.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 and
275 authorized for expenditure in Section 3, it is the intention of
276 the Legislature that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00)
277 shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce
278 for the Beaver Control or Eradication Program during the Fiscal
279 Year 2007.

280 **SECTION 15.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
281 Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory is hereby authorized to
282 accept, budget and expend funds, not to exceed One Million Dollars

283 (\$1,000,000.00), from any source in accordance with rules and
284 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a
285 manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

286 **SECTION 16.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
287 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
288 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
289 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
290 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
291 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
292 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
293 made without competitive bids.

294 **SECTION 17.** Any person who was an employee of the Forestry
295 Commission who was laid off during Fiscal Year 2006 shall be given
296 first priority in any new employment by the commission.

297 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is
298 the intention of the Legislature that the Forestry Commission
299 shall immediately hire a "Forester or Technician" for Walthall
300 County.

301 **SECTION 19.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
302 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
303 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
304 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
305 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
306 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

307 **SECTION 20.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
308 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 FOR THE SUPPORT AND

2 MAINTENANCE OF THE STATE FORESTRY COMMISSION AND FOR THE PURPOSE
3 OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI INSTITUTE FOR FOREST
4 INVENTORY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Eaton

X (SIGNED)
Shows

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Jackson (32nd)

X (SIGNED)
Hyde-Smith