## REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

## MADAM PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

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

S. B. No. 3155: Appropriation; Funeral Services Bd.

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

- That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House 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 State Board of Funeral Services for
8	the purpose of defraying the expenses of said board for the fiscal
9	year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008
10	\$ 243,495.00.
11	SECTION 2. With the funds appropriated under the provisions
12	of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:
13	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:
14	Permanent: Full Time
15	Part Time0
16	Time-Limited: Full Time
17	Part Time0
18	Funds are provided herein to adjust the Variable Compensation
19	Plan to ensure that all full-time employees receive a pay increase
20	equal to the realignment component of the Variable Compensation
21	Plan or One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), whichever
22	is greater, to be awarded on July 1, 2007.
23	With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
24	the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
25	make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
26	Services" for Fiscal Year 2009 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2008
	07/SS05/SB3155CR.J * SS05/ OSB3155CR.J* (S)AP (H)AP A1/2

```
funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
27
28
    are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the
29
    Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
    Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
30
31
    determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
32
    appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
33
    act.
          It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
34
    that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
    cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations for "Personal
35
36
    Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds
37
    and educational benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any
    action to change "Personal Services", the State Personnel Board
38
    determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause
39
40
    the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year
    2008 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then
41
42
    only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or
43
    the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State
    Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
44
45
    provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
    will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
46
47
    report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
48
    order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.
49
         The agency shall not take any action to promote or otherwise
50
    award salary increases through reallocation, reclassification,
51
    realignment, education benchmark, career ladder, or any other
52
    means to increase salaries of employees or positions unless
53
    specifically exempted by the following conditions: the award of
    teacher pay increases, the advancement of a trainee/cadet to the
54
    next level of a bona fide career ladder, the award of an
55
56
    educational benchmark for the attainment of Certified Public
    Accountant License or higher level professional certification as
57
58
    determined by the State Personnel Board, the immediate replacement
```

- 59 of a departing employee with an individual from within state
- 60 service or a new hire at a salary level equivalent to that of the
- 61 departing employee, and the emergency appointment of nurses,
- pharmacists or other health care professionals at a salary to be 62
- 63 determined by the State Personnel Board, unless otherwise
- 64 authorized in this act.
- Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with 65
- 66 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
- allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State 67
- 68 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 69 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration.
- Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written 70
- approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions 71
- 72 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
- 73 appropriated level.
- 74 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
- 75 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are
- being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this 76
- 77 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.
- 78 SECTION 3. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 79 Funeral Services Board shall maintain complete accounting and
- 80 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
- 81 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
- same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 82
- 83 2007. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
- agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to 84
- 85 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
- detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided 86
- during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request process. 87
- 88 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that
- whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the 89
- 90 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things

- stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price, 91
- 92 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
- shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to 93
- 94 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
- 95 made without competitive bids.
- 96 SECTION 5. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
- 97 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
- credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon 98
- warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal 99
- 100 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
- proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law. 101
- SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from 102
- 103 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 OF SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE TREASURY TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL 2 SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE	CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Gordon	Stringer
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Gollott	Read
X (SIGNED)	X (SIGNED)
Kirby	Weathersby