

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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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:

- 1. 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 \$ 243,699.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** With the funds appropriated under the provisions
12 of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

14	Permanent: Full Time.....	2
15	Part Time.....	0
16	Time-Limited: Full Time.....	0
17	Part Time.....	0

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

27 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
28 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2008 budget by the
29 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
30 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
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
35 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations for "Personal
36 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds
37 and educational benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any
38 action to change "Personal Services", the State Personnel Board
39 determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause
40 the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year
41 2008 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then
42 only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or
43 the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State
44 Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this
45 provision are met. On January 1, 2008, the State Personnel Board
46 will make adjustments to the structure side of the compliance
47 report based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office in
48 order for agencies to award educational benchmarks.

49 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
50 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
51 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
52 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
53 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
54 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
55 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
56 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
57 appropriated level.

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

62 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
63 Funeral Services Board shall maintain complete accounting and
64 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
65 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
66 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
67 2007. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
68 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2009 shall be submitted to
69 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
70 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
71 during the Fiscal Year 2008 budget request process.

72 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
73 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
74 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
75 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
76 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
77 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
78 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
79 made without competitive bids.

80 **SECTION 5.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
81 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
82 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
83 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
84 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
85 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

86 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
87 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 OF SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE
2 TREASURY TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL
3 SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Gollott

X (SIGNED)
Kirby

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Weathersby