

By: Representatives Read, Cockerham, Arnold, To: Appropriations
Barker, Bennett, Eure, Gipson, Holland,
Huddleston (30th), Myers, Thomas, Turner

HOUSE BILL NO. 1500
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM GENERAL FUNDS IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
7 Funds not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the
8 expenses of the Mississippi Public Service Commission for the
9 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.....
10\$ 4,348,364.00.

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

13 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

14	Permanent:	Full Time.....	69
15		Part Time.....	6
16	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	5
17		Part Time.....	0



18 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
19 responsibility to make certain that funds required to be
20 appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2019 do not
21 exceed Fiscal Year 2018 funds appropriated for that purpose,
22 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year
23 2018 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data
24 provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel
25 Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to
26 fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the
27 provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the
28 agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases
29 this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2018
30 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the
31 exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at
32 the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal
33 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency
34 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this
35 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2018 "Personal Services"
36 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which
37 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation
38 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until
39 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

40 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
41 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
42 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State



43 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
44 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
45 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
46 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
47 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
48 appropriated level.

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

53 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in
54 violation of Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A relating
55 to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as
56 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

57 **SECTION 3.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
58 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
59 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
60 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
61 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
62 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
63 performance measures provided below:

64		FY2018
65	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
66	Utility Regulatory Services	
67	Number of Utility Docket Cases	250



68	Total Number of Utility Complaints	5,000
69	Electric Complaints as a Percentage of	
70	Total (%)	50.00
71	Telecommunication Complaints as a Percentage	
72	of Total (%)	34.00
73	Water Complaints as a Percentage of Total (%)	9.00
74	Gas Complaints as a Percentage of Total (%)	6.00
75	Sewer Complaints as a Percentage of Total (%)	1.00
76	Average Cost per Utility Complaint (\$)	650.00
77	Time to Resolve Utility Complaints (Days)	2.00
78	Average Price of Electricity per Kilowatt	
79	Hour in Mississippi for Residential	
80	Customers, by Utility Type:	
81	Investor-owned Utilities (Cents/kWh)	11.00
82	Electric Cooperatives (Cents/kWh)	11.00
83	Average Price of Electricity for Residential	
84	Customers in Mississippi as a Percentage of	
85	the April 2016 National Avg. (12.43 c/kWh):	
86	Investor-owned Utilities (%)	87.00
87	Electric Cooperatives (%)	96.00
88	Average Monthly Residential Electric Usage	
89	in Mississippi (kWh)	1,220.00
90	Average Monthly Residential Electric Usage in	
91	Mississippi as a Percentage of the 2015	
92	National Average, 909 kWh (%)	135.00



93	Number of Pipeline Inspections	650
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95 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
96 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
97 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
98 Committee for Fiscal Year 2019.

106 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
107 Public Service Commission shall maintain complete accounting and
108 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
109 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
110 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
111 2017. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
112 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2019 shall be submitted to
113 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
114 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
115 during the Fiscal Year 2018 budget request process.

118 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
119 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the
120 expenses of the Public Service Commission to administer the
121 Mississippi Telephone Solicitation Act, for the fiscal year
122 beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.....
123\$ 69,865.00.

124 **SECTION 7.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
125 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
126 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
127 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
128 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
129 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
130 performance measures provided below:

	FY2018
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
Telephone "no-call"	
Number of No-Call Complaints	18,000
Average Cost per No-Call Complaint (\$)	8.58

136 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
137 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
138 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
139 Committee for Fiscal Year 2019.

140 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
141 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
142 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things



143 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
144 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
145 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
146 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
147 made without competitive bids.

148 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
149 Public Service Commission shall compile the amount of time that is
150 expended on each regulated entity during Fiscal Year 2017. On or
151 before August 1, 2017, the Public Service Commission shall report
152 these findings to the House of Representatives' Public Utilities
153 Committee.

154 **SECTION 10.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
155 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
156 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
157 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
158 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
159 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

160 **SECTION 11.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
161 and after July 1, 2017.

