

By: Representatives Read, Mims, Arnold,
Barker, Bennett, Bounds, Brown, Currie,
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Watson, Ladner

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1514
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
2 REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
5 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
6 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department of
7 Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year beginning
8 July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.....\$ 19,818,954.00.

9 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
10 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in
11 the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of
12 Rehabilitation Services which is comprised of special source funds
13 collected by or otherwise available to the department for the
14 support of the various offices of the department, for the purpose
15 of defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal year
16 beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.....
17\$ 211,413,875.00.



18 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
19 Section 2, Three Million Six Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Eight
20 Hundred Two Dollars (\$3,681,802.00) shall be derived from the
21 Health Care Expendable Fund created in Section 43-13-407,
22 Mississippi Code of 1972. The above funds shall be allocated as
23 follows:

24 Fully match all available federal
25 funds.....\$ 2,782,590.00
26 Independent Living Program which
27 includes the State Attendant
28 Care Program.....\$ 854,903.00
29 Deaf and hard of hearing.....\$ 44,309.00

30 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
31 Sections 1, 2 and 3, the following positions are authorized:

32 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

33 Permanent: Full Time..... 950
34 Part Time..... 8
35 Time-Limited: Full Time..... 200
36 Part Time..... 1

37 The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind shall
38 remain accredited by using not more than Five Hundred Dollars
39 (\$500.00) of the funds appropriated along with matching funds for
40 payment of fees to an accreditation agency recommended by the
41 Rehabilitation Services Administration.



42 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
43 responsibility to make certain that funds required to be
44 appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2019 do not
45 exceed Fiscal Year 2018 funds appropriated for that purpose,
46 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year
47 2018 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data
48 provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel
49 Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to
50 fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the
51 provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the
52 agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases
53 this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2018
54 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the
55 exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at
56 the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal
57 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency
58 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this
59 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2018 "Personal Services"
60 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which
61 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation
62 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until
63 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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



67 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
68 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
69 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
70 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
71 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
72 appropriated level.

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

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

81 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
82 Department of Rehabilitation Services shall maintain complete
83 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
84 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
85 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
86 Year 2017. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
87 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2019 shall be
88 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
89 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
90 provided during the Fiscal Year 2018 budget request process.



91 **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated herein, the Mississippi
92 Department of Rehabilitation Services through the Office of
93 Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind is authorized to expend an
94 amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)
95 for the National Federation for the Blind (NFB) News line service
96 to allow blind and visually impaired persons to access newspapers
97 through toll-free telephone calls.

98 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
99 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
100 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
101 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
102 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
103 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
104 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
105 made without competitive bids.

106 **SECTION 8.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
107 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
108 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
109 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
110 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
111 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
112 performance measures provided below:

113		FY2018
114	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
115	Disability Determination Svcs	



116	Dispositions (Number of)	10,300
117	Processing Time (Days)	98
118	Vocational Rehabilitation For The Blind	
119	Blind & Visually Impaired Served (Persons)	915
120	Persons Rehabilitated (Number of)	574
121	Number Served, Independent Living	888
122	Percentage Change of Persons Employed	
123	Compared to Total Persons Served	2.50
124	Vocational Rehabilitation	
125	Clients Served (Number of)	20,125
126	Clients Rehabilitated (Number of)	3,026
127	Percentage Change of Persons Employed	
128	Compared to Total Persons Served	3.10
129	Persons Employed with Pay Rate Greater	
130	Than Federal or State Minimum Wage	2,600
131	Persons With Significant Disabilities Leaving	
132	VR with Competitive, Self, or BEP	
133	Employment, Wages = or > than Minimum	60.00
134	Spinal Cord & Head Injury Prg	
135	Clients Served (Number of)	1,378
136	Percentage Change in Number of Spinal Cord	
137	and Brain Injuries per Year	3.00
138	Establishment & Const Grants	
139	Number of Grants Awarded	0
140	Special Disability Programs	



141	Clients Served (Number of)	3,459
142	Percentage Change in Persons Receiving	
143	HCBW Services Compared to Waiting List	58.00
144	Ratio of Cost of HCBW Services per Person	
145	Compared to an Institutional Setting	38.00
146	Support Services	
147	Percentage of Total Budget	1.44

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

152 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated herein, an additional
153 One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) of Special Funds to be
154 transferred from the Division of Medicaid are provided to fund the
155 Independent Living, Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver
156 Program in the Office of Special Disability Programs.

157 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds herein appropriated, an amount not
158 to exceed One Hundred Eighty-seven Thousand Dollars (\$187,000.00)
159 shall fund the AmeriCorp Northtown Family Readiness Program. It
160 is the intention of the Legislature that the funds provided under
161 this section and any related federal matching funds shall be
162 submitted by the program to the State Auditor for audit of those
163 funds. It is the further intention of the Legislature that the
164 program shall partner with state and local veterans organizations
165 in providing its services.



166 **SECTION 11.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is
167 the intention of the Legislature that One Million Five Hundred
168 Sixty-three Thousand Thirty-nine Dollars (\$1,563,039.00) shall be
169 allocated to the Spinal Cord & Head Injury Trust supported from
170 General Fund court assessments.

171 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
172 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
173 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
174 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
175 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
176 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
177 actions contrary to this provision.

178 **SECTION 13.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
179 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
180 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
181 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
182 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
183 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

184 **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
185 and after July 1, 2017.

