

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

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

S. B. No. 2971: Appropriation; Ethics Commission.

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:

SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Ethics Commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018

.....\$ 573,410.00.

SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of this act, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent:	Full Time.....	6
	Part Time.....	0
Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
	Part Time.....	0

17 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
18 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law.

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22 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

23 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
24 Mississippi Ethics Commission shall maintain complete accounting
25 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
26 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
27 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
28 2017. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
29 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2019 shall be submitted to
30 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
31 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
32 during the Fiscal Year 2018 budget request process.

33 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
34 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
35 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
36 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
37 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
38 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
39 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
40 made without competitive bids.

41 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature, that of
42 the funds provided in Section 1, the Ethics Commission is hereby
43 authorized to purchase and pay premiums for casualty insurance on
44 passenger vehicles owned and operated by the agency.

45 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
46 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
47 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
48 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
49 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
50 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
51 actions contrary to this provision.

52 **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
53 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
54 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
55 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
56 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
57 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

58 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after July 1, 2017.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI ETHICS COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Clarke

X (SIGNED)
Jackson (15th)

X (SIGNED)
Turner-Ford

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Cockerham

X (SIGNED)
Thomas