

By: Representative Gipson

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 778

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC
2 DEFENDER FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTRACTING WITH TRAINED AND CERTIFIED
3 ATTORNEYS TO REPRESENT INDIGENT PARENTS OR GUARDIANS IN ABUSE,
4 NEGLECT OR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
5 FISCAL YEAR 2019.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be
8 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
9 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Office of State Public
10 Defender for the purpose of contracting with trained and certified
11 attorneys to represent indigent parents or guardians in abuse,
12 neglect or termination of parental rights proceedings as provided
13 under Sections 43-21-201 and 99-18-13, Mississippi Code of 1972,
14 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30,
15 2019.....\$ 500,000.00.

16 **SECTION 2.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid
17 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State General Fund
18 not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants issued by the State
19 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his



20 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or
21 officers in the manner provided by law.

22 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
23 and after July 1, 2018.

