

By: Representatives Read, Huddleston (15th), To: Appropriations
Arnold, Baria, Barton, Boyd, Brown,
Cockerham, Denny, Holland, Ladner, Myers,
Staples, Sullivan, Turner, Watson

HOUSE BILL NO. 1578

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 VETERANS' HOME PURCHASE BOARD AND MAKING NEW HOME LOANS AS
4 AUTHORIZED BY LAW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
7 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
8 Treasury to the credit of the Veterans' Home Purchase Board's
9 revolving fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
10 Veterans' Home Purchase Board and making new home loans as
11 authorized by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and
12 ending June 30, 2019.....\$ 49,280,135.00.

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

15 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

16	Permanent:	Full Time.....	17
17		Part Time.....	0
18	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
19		Part Time.....	0



20 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
21 responsibility to make certain that funds required to be
22 appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2020 do not
23 exceed Fiscal Year 2019 funds appropriated for that purpose,
24 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year
25 2019 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data
26 provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel
27 Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to
28 fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the
29 provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the
30 agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases
31 this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2019
32 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the
33 exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at
34 the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal
35 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency
36 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this
37 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2019 "Personal Services"
38 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which
39 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation
40 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until
41 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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



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

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

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

59 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
60 Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall maintain complete accounting
61 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
62 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
63 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
64 2018. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
65 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2020 shall be submitted to
66 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
67 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
68 during the Fiscal Year 2019 budget request process.



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

77 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
78 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
79 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
80 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
81 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
82 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
83 actions contrary to this provision.

84 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
85 Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall have the authority to charge
86 and collect payment from the State Veterans Affairs Board for the
87 cost of rent and utilities of a shared building.

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



94 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that this
95 agency shall have the authority to expend funds from any source
96 that may become available to the agency in accordance with the
97 rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and
98 Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of
99 federal funds for the purpose of funding any increase in health
100 insurance costs for Fiscal Year 2019, or for the purpose of
101 funding additional fees, costs or assessments received by the
102 agency from the Department of Information Technology Services or
103 the Department of Finance and Administration for Fiscal Year 2019
104 that may be incurred by the agency as a result of legislation
105 passed during the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature and
106 approved by the Governor. The agency is authorized to escalate
107 other special funds for the limited purposes provided in this
108 section in an amount not to exceed Sixty-two Thousand Five Hundred
109 Sixty-four Dollars (\$62,564.00).

110 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
111 Veterans' Home Purchase Board is hereby authorized to escalate,
112 budget and expend funds from any source, not to exceed Ten Million
113 Dollars (\$10,000,000.00), for the purpose of making new home loans
114 as authorized by law, in accordance with rules and regulations of
115 the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner
116 consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

117 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
118 and after July 1, 2018.

