

By: Representatives Read, Huddleston,
 Arnold, Baria, Barton, Boyd, Brown,
 Cockerham, Denny, Hines, Holland, Ladner,
 Myers, Staples, Sullivan, Turner, Watson,
 Willis, Faulkner, Dixon

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1619

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 2020.

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, 2019, and
 12 ending June 30, 2020.....\$ 49,294,451.00.

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.....	18
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 2021 do not
23 exceed Fiscal Year 2020 funds appropriated for that purpose,
24 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year
25 2020 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 2020
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 2020 "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



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

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and/or other special funds which are being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

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

SECTION 3. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2019. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2021 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2020 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.** If the Veterans' Affairs Board occupies space
85 owned by the Veterans' Home Purchase Board, it is the intention of
86 the Legislature that the Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall have
87 the authority to charge and collect payment from the State
88 Veterans' Affairs Board for the cost of rent and utilities of a
89 shared building.

90 **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
91 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
92 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
93 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal



94 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
95 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

96 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
97 Veterans' Home Purchase Board is hereby authorized to escalate,
98 budget and expend funds from any source, not to exceed Ten Million
99 Dollars (\$10,000,000.00), for the purpose of making new home loans
100 as authorized by law, in accordance with rules and regulations of
101 the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner
102 consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

103 **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
104 and after July 1, 2019.

