

By: Representatives Read, Mims, Arnold,  
Bennett, Bounds, Brown, Clark, Hines,  
Holland, Mettetal, Myers, Turner, Watson

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1651  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020.

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 July 1,  
8 2019, and ending June 30, 2020.....\$ 25,568,222.00.

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, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020.....  
17 .....\$ 211,309,657.00.



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.....       205  
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 2021 do not  
45 exceed Fiscal Year 2020 funds appropriated for that purpose,  
46 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year  
47 2020 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 2020  
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 2020 "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 Funds are provided herein for all full-time employees to  
65 receive up to a Three Percent (3%) pay increase to the realignment



66 component of the Variable Compensation Plan, excluding head of  
67 agencies, board members and commission members.

68 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
69 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
70 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
71 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
72 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
73 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
74 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
75 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
76 appropriated level.

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80 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

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

85 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
86 Department of Rehabilitation Services shall maintain complete  
87 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
88 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
89 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
90 Year 2019. It is further the intention of the Legislature that



91 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2021 shall be  
92 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
93 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
94 provided during the Fiscal Year 2020 budget request process.

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

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

110       **SECTION 8.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
111 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
112 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
113 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
114 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,



115 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
116 performance measures provided below:

117		FY2020
118	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
119	Disability Determination Services	
120	Dispositions	110
121	Processing Time	98
122	Special Disability Programs	
123	Clients Served (Number of)	3,300
124	Percentage Change in Persons Receiving	
125	HCBW Services Compared to Waiting List	58.00
126	Ratio of Cost to HCBW Services per	
127	Person Compared to an Institutional	
128	Setting	38.00
129	Support Services	
130	Percentage of Total Budget	2.00
131	Spinal Cord & Head Injury Program	
132	Clients Served (Number of)	1,000
133	Percentage Change in Number of Spinal	
134	Cord and Brain Injuries per Year	3.00
135	Vocational Rehabilitation	
136	Clients Served (Number of)	13,900
137	Clients Rehabilitated (Number of)	2,250
138	Percentage Change of Persons Employed	
139	Compared to Total Persons Served	16.00



140	Persons Employed with Pay Rate Greater	
141	Than Federal or State Minimum Wage	2,200
142	Persons With Significant Disabilities	
143	Leaving VR with Competitive, Self, or	
144	BEP Employment, Wage = or > than Minimum	60
145	Voc Rehabilitation For The Blind	
146	Blind & Visually Impaired Served (Persons)	1,685
147	Persons Rehabilitated (Number of)	575
148	Number Served, Independent Living	977
149	Percentage Change of Persons Employed	
150	Compared to Total Persons Served	0.21

151 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
152 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
153 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
154 Committee for Fiscal Year 2021.

155 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is the  
156 intention of the Legislature that One Million Five Hundred  
157 Sixty-three Thousand Thirty-nine Dollars (\$1,563,039.00) shall be  
158 allocated to the Spinal Cord & Head Injury Trust supported from  
159 General Fund court assessments.

160 **SECTION 10.** Of the fund appropriated in Section 1, One  
161 Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is provided for the support of the  
162 Independent Living Home and Community Based Waiver programs along  
163 with any additional funds that may be appropriated to these  
164 programs.



165           **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
166 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
167 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
168 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
169 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
170 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
171 actions contrary to this provision.

172           **SECTION 12.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
173 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
174 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
175 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
176 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
177 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

178           **SECTION 13.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
179 and after July 1, 2019.

