

By: Representatives Read, Oliver, Bounds,  
Busby, Cockerham, Hale, Haney, Hines,  
Huddleston, Jackson, Ladner, Turner, Watson,  
Young

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1592

1 AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE BOARD OF  
3 REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS FOR  
4 FISCAL YEAR 2023.

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 State Board of Registration for  
9 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, for the purpose of  
10 defraying the expenses of the board for the fiscal year beginning  
11 July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.....\$ 465,631.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds approved for expenditure under the  
13 provisions of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

14 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

15	Permanent:	Full Time.....	4
16		Part Time.....	0
17	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	0
18		Part Time.....	0



19           With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
20 responsibility to make certain that funds required for "Personal  
21 Services" for Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2023  
22 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions  
23 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2023 budget by the  
24 Mississippi Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the  
25 agency's personal services appropriation, which shall be published  
26 by the State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel  
27 Board shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll  
28 costs based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility  
29 of the agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures  
30 for Fiscal Year 2023 do not exceed the data provided by the  
31 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2023  
32 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions  
33 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception  
34 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

35           Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
36 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
37 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
38 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
39 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
40 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
41 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
42 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
43 appropriated level.



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

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

52 Funds have been appropriated herein for the purpose of  
53 funding Project SEC2 minimum salaries for all employees covered  
54 under the Colonel Guy Groff/Neville Kenning Variable Compensation  
55 Plan. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that the  
56 funds are used to increase all employees' salaries up to the  
57 minimum level as determined by the State Personnel Board.

58 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
59 State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land  
60 Surveyors shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records  
61 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this  
62 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of  
63 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2022. It is further the  
64 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for  
65 Fiscal Year 2024 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative  
66 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the  
67 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2023  
68 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.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
85 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
86 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
87 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
88 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
89 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

90           **SECTION 7.** Of the funds provided herein, Three Hundred  
91 Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) shall be provided in grants for  
92 ABET-accredited engineering programs and Board-approved surveying  
93 programs of any college or university in the State of Mississippi,



94 after application to and subject to approval by the Board. The  
95 Board will develop guidelines for application, award, and  
96 disbursement of these grants. The Board will issue a written  
97 report to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and the chairs of the House  
98 and Senate Appropriations Committees as to how the grants were  
99 awarded.

100       **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
101 and after July 1, 2022, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2022.

