

By: Representatives Read, Ladner, Arnold,  
Cockerham, Haney, Turner, Hale

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1621

1 AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY  
3 WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is authorized and approved for expenditure out of any  
7 funds which are received by or otherwise become available to the  
8 Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District, for the purpose  
9 of paying bond maturities, accrued interest, maintenance expenses,  
10 project development costs, and any other authorized expenses of  
11 the water management district, for the fiscal year beginning  
12 July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023..... \$ 8,793,554.00.

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 .....	16
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 for "Personal  
22 Services" for Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2023  
23 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions  
24 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2023 budget by the  
25 Mississippi Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the  
26 agency's personal services appropriation, which shall be published  
27 by the State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel  
28 Board shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll  
29 costs based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility  
30 of the agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures  
31 for Fiscal Year 2023 do not exceed the data provided by the  
32 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2023  
33 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions  
34 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception  
35 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

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



43 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
44 appropriated level.

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

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

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

59 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
60 Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District shall maintain  
61 complete accounting and personnel records related to the  
62 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such  
63 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as  
64 maintained for Fiscal Year 2022. It is further the intention of  
65 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year  
66 2024 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
67 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level



68 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2023 budget request  
69 process.

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

78         **SECTION 5.** All monies in possession of the district in  
79 excess of necessary operating funds shall be deposited with a bank  
80 or banks selected by the board of directors of the district.  
81 These funds shall be deposited in such bank or banks and in such  
82 manner that interest earned shall be at least equal to interest  
83 earnings on state funds deposited by the State Treasury.

84         **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
85 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
86 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
87 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
88 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
89 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
90 actions contrary to this provision.



91           **SECTION 7.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall  
92 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer  
93 or officers, in the manner provided by law.

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

