

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1612**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

5           **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department of  
8 Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year beginning  
9 July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.....\$     26,581,929.00.

10           **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
11 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in  
12 the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of  
13 Rehabilitation Services which is comprised of special source funds  
14 collected by or otherwise available to the department for the



15 support of the various offices of the department, for the purpose  
16 of defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal year  
17 beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.....  
18 .....\$ 212,487,630.00.

19 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
20 Section 2, Three Million Six Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Eight  
21 Hundred Two Dollars (\$3,681,802.00) shall be derived from the  
22 Health Care Expendable Fund created in Section 43-13-407,  
23 Mississippi Code of 1972. The above funds shall be allocated as  
24 follows:

25 Fully match all available federal  
26 funds.....\$ 2,782,590.00.  
27 Independent Living Program which  
28 includes the State Attendant  
29 Care Program.....\$ 854,903.00.  
30 Deaf and hard of hearing.....\$ 44,309.00.

31 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
32 Sections 1, 2 and 3, the following positions are authorized:

33 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

34	Permanent:	Full Time.....	960
35		Part Time.....	8
36	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	206
37		Part Time.....	1

38 The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind shall  
39 remain accredited by using not more than Five Hundred Dollars



40 (\$500.00) of the funds appropriated along with matching funds for  
41 payment of fees to an accreditation agency recommended by the  
42 Rehabilitation Services Administration.

43 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
44 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
45 Services for Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2023 funds  
46 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
47 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2023 budget by the Mississippi  
48 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
49 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the  
50 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board  
51 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs  
52 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the  
53 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for  
54 Fiscal Year 2023 do not exceed the data provided by the  
55 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2023  
56 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions  
57 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception  
58 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

59 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
60 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
61 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
62 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
63 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
64 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written



65 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
66 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
67 appropriated level.

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

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

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

82 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
83 Department of Rehabilitation Services shall maintain complete  
84 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
85 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
86 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
87 Year 2022. It is further the intention of the Legislature that  
88 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2024 shall be  
89 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format



90 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
91 provided during the Fiscal Year 2023 budget request process.

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

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

107         **SECTION 8.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
108 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
109 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
110 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
111 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
112 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
113 performance measures provided below:

114

FY2023



115 <u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
116 Disability Determination Services	
117       Number of Dispositions	90,000
118       Processing Time (Days)	115
119 Voc Rehabilitation For The Blind	
120       Blind & Visually Impaired Served (Persons)	2,000
121       Number of Persons Rehabilitated	275
122       Independent Living (Number Served)	735
123       Percent Change in Persons Employed	
124               Compared to Total Persons Served	13.00
125 Vocational Rehabilitation	
126       Number of Clients Served	15,000
127       Number of Clients Rehabilitated	2,525
128       Percent Change of Persons Employed	
129               Compared to Total Persons Served	16.00
130       Persons Employed with Pay Rate Greater	
131               Than Federal or State Minimum Wage	2,415
132       Persons with Significant Disabilities	
133               Leaving VR with Competitive, Self, or	
134               BEP Employment, Wage = or > Than Minimum	1,125
135 Spinal Cord & Head Injury Program	
136       Number of Clients Served	1,000
137       Percent Change in Number of Spinal Cord	
138               & Brain Injuries per Year	3.00
139 Special Disability Programs	



140	Number of Clients Served	3,000
141	Percent Change in Persons Receiving HCBW	
142	Services Compared to Waiting List	56.00
143	Ratio of Cost to HCBW Services per	
144	Person Compared to an Institutional	
145	Setting	38.00

146	Support Services	
147	Percent of Total Budget	1.96

148 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
149 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
150 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
151 Committee for Fiscal Year 2024.

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

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

162 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
163 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
164 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency



165 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
166 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
167 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
168 actions contrary to this provision.

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

175       **SECTION 13.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
176 and after July 1, 2022, and shall stand repealed June 29, 2022.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1       AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR  
3 FISCAL YEAR 2023.

