

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

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1606

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM GENERAL FUND IN THE STATE
2 TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE
3 FIRE ACADEMY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024.

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 appropriated out of any money in the State General
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the
8 expenses of the State Fire Academy for the fiscal year beginning
9 July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 5,324,164.00.

10 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
11 Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

12 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

13 Permanent: Full Time..... 60

14 Time-Limited: Full Time..... 0

15 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
16 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
17 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
18 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are



19 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
20 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
21 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the
22 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board
23 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs
24 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the
25 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for
26 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the
27 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024
28 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions
29 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception
30 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

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

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



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

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

54 **SECTION 3.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
55 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
56 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
57 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
58 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
59 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
60 performance measures provided below:

	FY2024
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
63 Training	
64 Number of Students Trained	15,000
65 Average Cost per Student Trained	440.49

66 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
67 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the



68 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
69 Committee for Fiscal Year 2025.

70 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
71 State Fire Academy shall maintain complete accounting and
72 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
73 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
74 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
75 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
76 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to
77 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
78 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
79 during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process.

80 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
81 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
82 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
83 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
84 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
85 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
86 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
87 made without competitive bids.

88 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
89 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
90 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
91 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
92 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally



93 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
94 actions contrary to this provision.

95 **SECTION 7.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
96 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
97 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the State Fire
98 Academy for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of
99 Capital Expense Funds for the purpose of a state match to purchase
100 a specialty rescue truck, as authorized in House Bill No. 1594,
101 2022 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023,
102 and ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 75,000.00.

103 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
104 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
105 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
106 remaining as of June 30, 2023, from the amount authorized for the
107 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
108 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

109 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
110 State Fire Academy is hereby authorized to pay invoices submitted
111 by Aramark Uniform for reimbursement for prior fiscal year
112 commodities in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Six Hundred
113 Fourteen Dollars (\$5,614.00).

114 **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
115 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
116 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
117 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal



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

120 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
121 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2023.

