

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

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1606
(As Sent to Governor)

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.....\$ 6,338,768.00.

10 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
11 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
12 the State Treasury to the credit of the State Fire Academy which
13 is comprised of special source funds collected by or otherwise
14 available to the department, for the purpose of defraying the
15 expenses of the department for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
16 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....\$ \$235,000.00.

17 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
18 Section 1, the following positions are authorized:



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 60

21 Time-Limited: 0

22 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
23 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
24 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
25 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
26 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
27 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
28 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board
29 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may
30 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year
31 2024 that may not be utilized for active Fiscal Year 2023
32 Headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that
33 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount
34 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments
35 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current
36 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee
37 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the
38 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

39 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
40 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
41 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
42 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2024 do
43 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If



44 the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 projected cost exceeds the
45 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the
46 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
47 essential for the agency.

48 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
49 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
50 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
51 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
52 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
53 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
54 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
55 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
56 appropriated level.

57 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
58 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for
59 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are
60 withdrawn and no longer available.

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

65 **SECTION 4.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
66 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
67 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
68 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the



69 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
70 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
71 performance measures provided below:

72		FY2024
73	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
74	Training	
75	Number of Students Trained	15,000
76	Average Cost per Student Trained	440.49

77 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
78 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
79 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
80 Committee for Fiscal Year 2025.

81 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
82 State Fire Academy shall maintain complete accounting and
83 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
84 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
85 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
86 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
87 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to
88 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
89 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
90 during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process.

91 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
92 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
93 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things



94 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
95 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
96 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
97 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
98 made without competitive bids.

99 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
100 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
101 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
102 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
103 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
104 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
105 actions contrary to this provision.

106 **SECTION 8.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
107 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
108 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the State Fire
109 Academy for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of
110 Capital Expense Funds for the purpose of a state match to purchase
111 a specialty rescue truck, as authorized in House Bill No. 1594,
112 2022 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023,
113 and ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 75,000.00.

114 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
115 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
116 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
117 remaining as of June 30, 2023, from the amount authorized for the



118 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
119 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

120 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, One
121 Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00), or so much thereof,
122 shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the
123 credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section
124 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as
125 determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided for
126 the completion of dorm rooms at the State Fire Academy.

127 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2,
128 Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), or so much thereof,
129 shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the
130 credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section
131 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as
132 determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided as
133 matching funds to purchase vehicles.

134 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
135 State Fire Academy is hereby authorized to pay invoices submitted
136 by Aramark Uniform for reimbursement for prior fiscal year
137 commodities in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Six Hundred
138 Fourteen Dollars (\$5,614.00).

139 **SECTION 12.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
140 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
141 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
142 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal



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

145 **SECTION 13.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
146 and after July 1, 2023.

