

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

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1608

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE  
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE  
3 MISSISSIPPI REAL ESTATE APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION  
4 BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.

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 appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury  
8 to the credit of the Real Estate Appraisal License Fund, for the  
9 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Real Estate  
10 Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board for the fiscal year  
11 beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....  
12 .....\$ 461,335.00.

13 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
14 Section 1, the following positions are authorized for the  
15 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification  
16 Board:

17 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

18 Permanent: 4  
19 Time-Limited: 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 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds  
23 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
24 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi  
25 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
26 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the  
27 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board  
28 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs  
29 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the  
30 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for  
31 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the  
32 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024  
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 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification  
61 Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records  
62 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this  
63 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of  
64 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2023. It is further the  
65 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for  
66 Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative  
67 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the  
68 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2024  
69 budget request 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.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
79 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
80 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
81 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
82 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
83 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
84 actions contrary to this provision.

85           **SECTION 6.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
86 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
87 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
88 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
89 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
90 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

91           **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
92 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2023.

