

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.

