

By: Representatives Read, Ladner, Arnold,  
Cockerham, Haney, Turner

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1630  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE PAT HARRISON WATERWAY  
3 DISTRICT 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 authorized and approved for expenditure out of any  
7 funds which are received by or otherwise become available to the  
8 Pat Harrison Waterway District, for the purpose of defraying the  
9 expenses of the district for the fiscal year beginning  
10 July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....  
11 .....\$ 8,042,825.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds approved for expenditure under the  
13 provisions of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

14 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

15 Permanent: 58  
16 Time-Limited: 0

17 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
18 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal



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

34 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
35 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
36 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
37 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2024 do  
38 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
39 the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 projected cost exceeds the  
40 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
41 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
42 essential for the agency.



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

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

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

60 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
61 Pat Harrison Waterway District shall maintain complete accounting  
62 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
63 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the  
64 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
65 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
66 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to  
67 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of



68 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided  
69 during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process.

70         **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, Seven  
71 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00), is authorized to be  
72 expended to defray the cost of park facilities repairs only.  
73 These repairs are to include bath houses and cabins and to exclude  
74 any Flint Creek Horse Trail repairs.

75         **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, Four  
76 Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$480,000.00), is authorized to be  
77 expended to defray the cost of the Little Black Creek Dam repairs.

78         **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
79 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
80 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
81 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
82 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
83 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
84 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
85 made without competitive bids.

86         **SECTION 7.** The funds herein approved for expenditure, except  
87 and less an amount approved by the State Fiscal Officer which  
88 shall be sufficient to cover disbursements for current operations,  
89 shall be deposited at interest with any official depository of the  
90 state at a rate of interest numerically not less than one percent  
91 (1%) below the bank discount rate on United States Treasury bills  
92 of comparable maturity as determined by the State Treasurer.



93           **SECTION 8.** The Pat Harrison Waterway District shall provide  
94 a report on completed park facilities repairs. This report shall  
95 be provided to the Legislature by December 1, 2023, and shall  
96 include photos of stated repairs. The Pat Harrison Waterway  
97 District shall provide the Joint Legislative Budget Committee a  
98 copy of this report with the subsequent fiscal year's budget  
99 submission.

100           **SECTION 9.** The Pat Harrison Waterway District shall provide  
101 an annual five-year plan containing a prioritized list detailing  
102 the purposes, goals and projected costs of projects which it  
103 intends to implement or is in the process of implementing. This  
104 report shall be provided to the Legislature on or before July 15  
105 of each year as required in Section 51-15-119(2). The Pat  
106 Harrison Waterway District shall provide the Joint Legislative  
107 Budget Committee a copy of this report with the current year's  
108 budget submission.

109           **SECTION 10.** The Pat Harrison Waterway District shall provide  
110 an annual audit of the district operations. This report shall be  
111 provided to the Legislature as required in Section 51-15-119(3).  
112 The Pat Harrison Waterway District shall provide the Joint  
113 Legislative Budget Committee a copy of this report with the  
114 current year's budget submission.

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



118 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
119 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
120 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
121 actions contrary to this provision.

122         **SECTION 12.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall  
123 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer  
124 or officers, in the manner provided by law.

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

