

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

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1631

1 AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE PEARL RIVER VALLEY WATER
3 SUPPLY 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 special source funds which are received by or otherwise become
8 available to the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District, for the
9 purpose of defraying the expenses of the district for the fiscal
10 year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....
11\$ 19,948,408.00.

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

14 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

15 Permanent: 107
16 Time-Limited: 1

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

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

42 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
43 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are



44 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
45 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

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

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

56 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
57 Pearl River Valley Water Supply District shall maintain complete
58 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
59 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
60 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
61 Year 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
62 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be
63 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
64 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
65 provided during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process.

66 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
67 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
68 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things



69 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
70 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
71 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
72 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
73 made without competitive bids.

74 **SECTION 5.** The funds herein approved for expenditure, except
75 and less an amount approved by the State Fiscal Officer which
76 shall be sufficient to cover disbursements for current operations,
77 shall be deposited at interest with any official depository of the
78 state at a rate of interest numerically not less than one percent
79 (1%) below the bank discount rate on United States Treasury bills
80 of comparable maturity as determined by the State Treasurer.

81 **SECTION 6.** None of the funds appropriated for expenditure
82 under this act may be expended by Pearl River Valley Water Supply
83 District until the district agrees to comply with the following
84 condition: the District shall waive traffic control fees for any
85 vehicle displaying a "REZ" tag.

86 **SECTION 7.** None of the funds appropriated for expenditure
87 under this act may be expended by Pearl River Valley Water Supply
88 District until the district agrees to comply with the following
89 conditions: (1) If any local governmental or nonprofit entity
90 wins the bid for the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major
91 Open, these events shall be exempt from the district's lottery
92 system for host events at the reservoir and given priority of any
93 and all date options available. (2) If any local governmental or



94 nonprofit entity wins the bid for such events, the district shall
95 waive the daily launch fees or any other special event fees for
96 the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major Open. (3) The
97 Catch A Dream Foundation Bass Classic shall be held on the first
98 Sunday in May unless any local governmental or nonprofit entity
99 wins the bid for the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major
100 Open on that date. The Catch A Dream Foundation Bass Classic
101 shall be exempt from the district's lottery system for host events
102 at the reservoir and given priority for the first Sunday in May.
103 The district shall waive the daily launch fees or any other
104 special event fees for the Classic.

105 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Two Hundred
106 Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) is provided for salary increase for
107 the purpose of funding overtime, callback or standby pay.

108 **SECTION 9.** Funds are provided herein out of the Ross Barnett
109 Reservoir Dredging Fund for dredging and other related activities
110 to remove sediments and debris from the bottom of the Ross Barnett
111 Reservoir.

112 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
113 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
114 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
115 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
116 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
117 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
118 actions contrary to this provision.



119 **SECTION 11.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall
120 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer
121 or officers, in the manner provided by law or in accordance with
122 the provisions of a valid trust indenture.

123 **SECTION 12.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
124 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
125 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
126 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
127 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
128 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

129 **SECTION 13.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
130 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2023.

