

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.

