

Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1599

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
7 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Board of
8 Nursing, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the board
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
10 June 30, 2024.....\$ 5,015,671.00.

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

13 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:
14 Permanent: 41
15 Time-Limited: 0

16 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
17 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
18 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
19 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
20 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
21 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's

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

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

41 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
42 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are
43 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
44 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

45 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in
46 violation of Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A relating

47 to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as
48 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

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

55 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds provided for herein, One Million
56 Five Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$1,560,000.00) shall be
57 provided for the Office of Nursing Workforce (ONW). In accordance
58 with Section 73-15-18(1), Mississippi Code of 1972, the
59 Mississippi Board of Nursing is designated as the state agency
60 responsible for the administration and supervision of the Nursing
61 Workforce Program as an educational curriculum. The mission of
62 the Office of Nursing Workforce is to carry out the scope of
63 service and leadership tasks required of the profession by
64 promoting a strong educational infrastructure between nursing
65 practice and nursing education.

66 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds provided under the provisions of
67 this act, an amount not to exceed One Hundred Five Thousand
68 Dollars (\$105,000.00) may be allocated to the Mississippi Board of
69 Pharmacy to defray the expenses of the Mississippi Prescription
70 Monitoring Program.

71 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
72 funds are appropriated here in accordance with a signed Memorandum

73 of Understanding with the Mississippi Department of Health to
74 assist with the implementation of the Medical Cannabis Act for
75 registering and monitoring compliance with the rules and
76 regulations of the Act.

77 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
78 Mississippi Board of Nursing shall maintain complete accounting
79 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
80 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
81 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
82 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
83 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to
84 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
85 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
86 during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process.

87 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
88 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
89 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
90 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
91 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
92 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
93 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
94 made without competitive bids.

95 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
96 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
97 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
98 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their

99 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
100 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
101 actions contrary to this provision.

102 **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
103 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
104 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
105 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
106 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
107 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

108 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
109 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 29, 2023.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

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 BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024.

SS15\HB1599A.J

Eugene S. Clarke
Secretary of the Senate