

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

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

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47 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

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

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

58 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
59 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification
60 Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records
61 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this
62 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of
63 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2023. It is further the
64 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for
65 Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative
66 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the
67 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2024
68 budget request process.

69 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
70 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
71 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
72 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
73 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind

74 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
75 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
76 made without competitive bids.

77 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
78 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
79 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
80 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
81 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
82 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
83 actions contrary to this provision.

84 **SECTION 6.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
85 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
86 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
87 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
88 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
89 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

90 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
91 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 REAL ESTATE APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION
4 BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.

SS15\HB1608A.J

Eugene S. Clarke
Secretary of the Senate