

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1613**

**BY: Committee**

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

6           **SECTION 1.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as  
7 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in the State  
8 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of  
9 funding K-12 and other related educational activities, including  
10 certain agencies and programs, in the State of Mississippi, for  
11 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024,  
12 as follows:

13                   (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
14 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education, and



15 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education  
16 Division.....\$ 103,263,196.00.

17 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
18 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education  
19 Division of the State Department of Education.....  
20 .....\$ 83,136,063.00.

21 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
22 paying annual compensation to the Chickasaw Cession counties for  
23 sixteenth section lands which they lost through sale by the state,  
24 as provided in Sections 29-3-137 through 29-3-141, Mississippi  
25 Code of 1972.....\$ 16,945,631.00.

26 (d) To the State Board of Education for defraying the  
27 expenses of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program.....  
28 .....\$ 2,576,380,577.00.

29 TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED  
30 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,779,725,467.00.

31 **SECTION 2.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as  
32 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in any special  
33 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or  
34 funds of the agencies or programs specified in the following  
35 paragraphs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending  
36 June 30, 2024, as follows:

37 (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
38 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education,



39 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education  
40 Division.....\$ 2,011,243,560.00.

41 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
42 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education  
43 Division of the State Department of Education.....  
44 .....\$ 22,695,567.00.

45 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of  
46 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Adequate Education  
47 Program.....\$ 245,112,197.00.

48 TOTAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED  
49 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,279,051,324.00.

50 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, One  
51 Hundred Twenty-six Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-two Dollars  
52 (\$126,472.00), or so much of that sum as may be necessary, is  
53 appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit  
54 of the Health Care Expendable Fund to the State Department of  
55 Education for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the  
56 department for the Mississippi Eye Screening Program for providing  
57 vision safety services.

58 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, the  
59 following sums, or so much of those sums as may be necessary, are  
60 derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of  
61 the Education Enhancement Fund pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and  
62 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as follows:



63 (a) To the State Department of Education, excluding the  
 64 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division, for  
 65 the following purposes:

|    |   |                  |
|----|---|------------------|
| 66 | Literacy Initiative and Assessment..... | \$ 6,805,774.00  |
| 67 | Educable Child.....                     | \$ 7,000,000.00  |
| 68 | Grants to school districts for          |                  |
| 69 | capital facilities and buses.....       | \$ 16,000,000.00 |
| 70 | Instructional materials.....            | \$ 25,000,000.00 |
| 71 | Students with Special Needs.....        | \$ 1,800,000.00  |
| 72 | Implementing Performance-Based Data     |                  |
| 73 | Collection and Accreditation            |                  |
| 74 | Model.....                              | \$ 274,937.00    |
| 75 | Testing.....                            | \$ 6,125,670.00  |
| 76 | Mississippi School for Math and         |                  |
| 77 | Science.....                            | \$ 275,000.00    |
| 78 | Mississippi School for Fine Arts. ....  | \$ 475,000.00    |
| 79 | Early Learning Collaboratives.....      | \$ 16,210,526.00 |
| 80 | Other Early Learning Programs.....      | \$ 20,000,000.00 |
| 81 | Early Learning Coaches.....             | \$ 3,251,533.00  |
| 82 | Math Coaches.....                       | \$ 5,000,000.00  |
| 83 | WorkKeys.....                           | \$ 1,000,000.00  |
| 84 | Advanced Placement, Dual Credits,       |                  |
| 85 | International Baccalaureate,            |                  |
| 86 | Cambridge Diploma Endorsements.....     | \$ 300,000.00    |
| 87 | Vocational Technical Grants.....        | \$ 1,000,000.00  |



88 Mississippi School for the Deaf  
 89 and Blind.....\$ 1,357,037.00  
 90 TOTAL.....\$ 111,875,477.00

91 (b) To the State Department of Education to defray the  
 92 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division.....  
 93 .....\$ 6,637,258.00.

94 (c) To the State Department of Education to provide  
 95 funding for the Mississippi Adequate Education Program.....  
 96 .....\$ 245,112,197.00.

97 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the  
 98 following positions are authorized for the State Department of  
 99 Education, excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical  
 100 Education Division:

101 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:  
 102 Permanent: 300  
 103 Time-Limited: 143

104 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
 105 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
 106 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds  
 107 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
 108 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi  
 109 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
 110 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the  
 111 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board  
 112 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs



113 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the  
114 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for  
115 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the  
116 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024  
117 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions  
118 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception  
119 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

120 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
121 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
122 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
123 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
124 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
125 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
126 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
127 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
128 appropriated level.

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

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



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

143 **SECTION 6.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
144 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
145 the Legislature that the funds provided in this act shall be  
146 utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible to  
147 achieve the intended mission of the State Department of Education,  
148 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education  
149 Division. Based on the funding authorized, this agency shall make  
150 every effort to attain the targeted performance measures provided  
151 below:

|  | FY2024        |
|--|---------------|
| <u>Performance Measures</u>                    | <u>Target</u> |
| 154 Special Education                          |               |
| 155 Number of Special Education Teachers (FTE) | 5,963         |
| 156 Number of Gifted Education Teachers        | 805           |
| 157 Percent Increase of Children with          |               |
| 158 Disabilities in General Education Early    |               |
| 159 Childhood Programs while Decreasing the    |               |
| 160 Percent in Self-Contained Special          |               |
| 161 Education Early Childhood Classrooms       | 76.00         |



|     |  |               |
|-----|--|---------------|
| 162 | General Administration                   |               |
| 163 | Total Dollars Spent on General           |               |
| 164 | Administration                           | 14,807,862.00 |
| 165 | Percent of Total Budget Spent on General |               |
| 166 | Administration                           | 15.70         |
| 167 | Create a Public-Facing Data System for   |               |
| 168 | All Stakeholders                         | 100.00        |
| 169 | Create a User-Friendly Website for the   |               |
| 170 | Public and School Districts to Access    |               |
| 171 | Data to Make Decisions                   | 100.00        |
| 172 | Create a Roadmap to Improve the          |               |
| 173 | Mississippi Student Information System   | 100.00        |
| 174 | Number of Research Results Published to  |               |
| 175 | Support Improved Student Outcomes and    |               |
| 176 | Teacher Effectiveness                    | 9             |
| 177 | Graduation & Career Readiness            |               |
| 178 | Percent Increase of Students Graduating  |               |
| 179 | from High School Ready for College or    |               |
| 180 | Career in Each Subgroup                  | 88.50         |
| 181 | Early Childhood Education                |               |
| 182 | Percent Increase of Kindergarten         |               |
| 183 | Students Achieving End-Of-Year Target    |               |
| 184 | Score on Kindergarten Readiness          |               |
| 185 | Post-Test                                | 69.05         |
| 186 | Percent Increase of Early Learning       |               |





|     |  |       |
|-----|--|-------|
| 187 | Collaborative Sites Meeting Required     |       |
| 188 | Rate of Readiness                        | 95.00 |
| 189 | Number of Students Enrolled in Title I   |       |
| 190 | or Locally Funded Pre-K Classes          | 8,691 |
| 191 | Teacher Tng & Professional Dev           |       |
| 192 | Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced   |       |
| 193 | and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools    |       |
| 194 | That Are High Poverty                    | 31.00 |
| 195 | Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced   |       |
| 196 | and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools    |       |
| 197 | That Are High Minority                   | 35.00 |
| 198 | Percent Increase of Districts Reporting  |       |
| 199 | Professional Growth System (PGS) Ratings |       |
| 200 | for Teachers and Leaders                 | 93.00 |
| 201 | Percent Increase of Teacher Candidates   |       |
| 202 | Passing Licensure Exams on the First     |       |
| 203 | Attempt                                  | 35.00 |
| 204 | Increase the Number of Licensed, Diverse |       |
| 205 | Teachers and Leaders                     | 35.00 |
| 206 | Elementary Education                     |       |
| 207 | Percent Increase of Students who Pass    |       |
| 208 | the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment at the  |       |
| 209 | First Administration in Each Subgroup    | 80.00 |
| 210 | Secondary Education                      |       |
| 211 | Increase the Number of Students          |       |



|     |  |       |
|-----|--|-------|
| 212 | Participating in and Passing Advanced    |       |
| 213 | Placement (AP), International            |       |
| 214 | Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge Exams   |       |
| 215 | in Each Subgroup                         | 37.00 |
| 216 | Percent Increase of Students Ready for   |       |
| 217 | College as Measured by Meeting ACT       |       |
| 218 | Benchmarks in Each Content Area (Public  |       |
| 219 | School Class Data, Grade 11)             | 11.00 |
| 220 | Assessment & Development                 |       |
| 221 | Increase the Percent of Students         |       |
| 222 | Proficient (Levels 4-5) on Statewide     |       |
| 223 | Assessments (Grades 3-8 & High School    |       |
| 224 | Composite) in Each Subgroup              | 52.00 |
| 225 | Decrease the Percent of Students Scoring |       |
| 226 | Levels 1-3 on Statewide Assessments in   |       |
| 227 | Each Subgroup                            | 57.00 |
| 228 | Increase Percent of Pre-Kindergarten     |       |
| 229 | Students in Public Schools Attaining     |       |
| 230 | Kindergarten Readiness on the Pre-K      |       |
| 231 | End-Of-Year Assessment                   | 72.00 |
| 232 | School Performance                       |       |
| 233 | Percent of Schools Rated "C" or Higher   | 80.00 |
| 234 | Percent of Districts Rated "C" or Higher | 80.00 |
| 235 | Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth |       |
| 236 | on Statewide ELA Assessments in Each     |       |



|     |  |        |
|-----|--|--------|
| 237 | Subgroup                                 | 66.00  |
| 238 | Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth |        |
| 239 | on Statewide Math Assessments in Each    |        |
| 240 | Subgroup                                 | 68.00  |
| 241 | Percent of Students Participating in     |        |
| 242 | Dual Credit in Each Subgroup             | 50.00  |
| 243 | Percent of Students Passing Dual Credit  |        |
| 244 | in Each Subgroup                         | 98.00  |
| 245 | Increase the Growth of D and F Districts |        |
| 246 | Demonstrating Growth, by Improving the   |        |
| 247 | Letter Grade and/or Increasing the       |        |
| 248 | Number of Points within a Letter Grade   | 76.00  |
| 249 | Increase the Growth of D and F Schools   |        |
| 250 | by Improving the Letter Grade and/or     |        |
| 251 | Increasing the Number of Points within a |        |
| 252 | Letter Grade                             | 70.00  |
| 253 | Increase the Growth of Districts of      |        |
| 254 | Transformation by Improving the Letter   |        |
| 255 | Grade and/or Increasing the Number of    |        |
| 256 | Points within a Letter Grade             | 100.00 |
| 257 | Increase the Growth of Schools Under     |        |
| 258 | Districts of Transformation by Improving |        |
| 259 | the Letter Grade and/or Increasing the   |        |
| 260 | Number of Points within a Letter Grade   | 100.00 |
| 261 | Decrease the Number of High Schools      |        |



262 Rated D or F 20.00

263 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
264 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
265 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
266 Committee for Fiscal Year 2025.

267 **SECTION 7.** No school district shall expend any funds,  
268 received under the School Ad Valorem Reduction Grant, unless such  
269 school district has specifically identified the amount of the  
270 grant within the published budget as required by Section 37-61-9,  
271 Mississippi Code of 1972. The published budget shall include the  
272 following statement: "Ad Valorem taxes will be \$\_\_\_\_\_ less as  
273 a result of the Ad Valorem Reduction Grants enacted by the  
274 Mississippi Legislature in 1992."

275 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, funds in  
276 the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall come from  
277 income derived from the principal of the Education Improvement  
278 Trust Fund created by Section 206A, Mississippi Constitution of  
279 1890, and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be used for  
280 the School for Math and Science.

281 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
282 this act, the following positions are authorized for the  
283 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State  
284 Department of Education:

285 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

286 Permanent: 48



287 Time-Limited: 5

288 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
289 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
290 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds  
291 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
292 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi  
293 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
294 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the  
295 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board  
296 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs  
297 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the  
298 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for  
299 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the  
300 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024  
301 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions  
302 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception  
303 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

304 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
305 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
306 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
307 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
308 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
309 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
310 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions



311 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
312 appropriated level.

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

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

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

327 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount  
328 not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty-nine Thousand Six Hundred  
329 Eighty-four Dollars (\$229,684.00) is authorized for the support of  
330 vocational and technical education programs as authorized in  
331 Section 37-31-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, for a period in excess  
332 of ten (10) months in a calendar year.

333 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
334 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State  
335 Department of Education shall, with the funds appropriated in



336 Section 1, transfer no more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars  
337 (\$75,000.00) to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation  
338 Commission for the purpose of providing matching funds to purchase  
339 soil conservation equipment.

340 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, no more  
341 than One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) is  
342 provided for the purpose of supporting the Future Farmers of  
343 America Center.

344 **SECTION 13.** The State Department of Education shall transfer  
345 the designated amounts to the appropriate entities, which shall  
346 assume full responsibility for the expenditure of these funds in  
347 accordance with state laws and accept all responsibility for any  
348 improper expenditure, for the following:

|     |   |                  |
|-----|---|------------------|
| 349 | Detention Centers.....                    | \$ 1,275,000.00. |
| 350 | Dubard School.....                        | \$ 650,000.00.   |
| 351 | Dyslexia Program.....                     | \$ 225,000.00.   |
| 352 | Jobs for MS Graduates, Inc.....           | \$ 600,000.00.   |
| 353 | Amplify Data Coaching.....                | \$ 1,100,000.00. |
| 354 | Magnolia Speech School.....               | \$ 1,000,000.00. |
| 355 | Principal Corp.....                       | \$ 200,000.00.   |
| 356 | Sight Savers.....                         | \$ 375,000.00.   |
| 357 | Teach for America.....                    | \$ 1,250,000.00. |
| 358 | Teacher Corp.....                         | \$ 200,000.00.   |
| 359 | Children's Center for Comm & Develop..... | \$ 750,000.00.   |
| 360 | Vision Screening Research.....            | \$ 225,000.00.   |



|     |   |    |               |
|-----|---|----|---------------|
| 361 | Algebra Nation.....                             | \$ | 1,100,000.00. |
| 362 | Save the Children.....                          | \$ | 75,000.00.    |
| 363 | Mississippi Construction Education Program..... | \$ | 212,500.00.   |
| 364 | T. K. Martin Center.....                        | \$ | 75,000.00.    |
| 365 | JumpStart Act.....                              | \$ | 250,000.00.   |
| 366 | Mastery Prep.....                               | \$ | 200,000.00.   |
| 367 | Arts for All Mississippi.....                   | \$ | 40,000.00.    |
| 368 | Total.....                                      | \$ | 9,802,500.00. |

369           **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that of  
370 the funds provided for Other Early Learning Programs in Section  
371 4(a), Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) is included for the  
372 Mississippi Department of Education to provide grant opportunities  
373 for Other Early Learning Programs through public schools including  
374 other public school preschool programs not participating in Early  
375 Learning Collaboratives.

376           **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount  
377 not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars  
378 (\$1,500,000.00) shall be used for technological methods for  
379 agricultural programs, computer science, engineering or robotic  
380 engineering programs and equipment upgrades and Mississippi  
381 Elementary (ME) STEM and STEAM programs from the Career and  
382 Technical Education Division of the State Department of Education.  
383 All programs must meet Mississippi Science Standards and/or  
384 College and Career Standards.





385 Of the funds appropriated in this section, an amount not to  
386 exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be distributed to  
387 the Mississippi State University Center for Cyber Education and  
388 used for computer science programs development and teacher  
389 training for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools  
390 for the purpose of developing K-12 computer science curricula,  
391 including both academic and career and technical education  
392 programs, developing and delivering teacher training, and working  
393 with the State Board of Education and Institutions of Higher  
394 Learning in the state to develop teacher preparation programs for  
395 computer science endorsements. All programs must meet the 2018  
396 Mississippi Computer Science Standards and/or Mississippi College  
397 and Career Standards.

398 **SECTION 16.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
399 computer science courses may be taught by certified teacher or for  
400 elementary level classes, computer science courses may be taught  
401 by teachers who are trained by the district in computer science  
402 instruction.

403 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the sum  
404 of Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-one Dollars (\$62,191.00),  
405 which is the aggregate sum that the school districts in the  
406 Chickasaw Cession receive annually from interest payments from the  
407 Chickasaw School Fund under Section 212, Mississippi Constitution  
408 of 1890, shall be deducted from the allocations to the school  
409 districts as provided in Section 29-3-137, Mississippi Code of



410 1972, and shall be distributed among the school districts in the  
411 Chickasaw Cession by the State Department of Education in the  
412 manner that those interest payments were distributed during Fiscal  
413 Year 1985.

414 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds provided in this act for the  
415 purpose of funding the Mississippi Adequate Education Program as  
416 determined under Section 37-151-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, the  
417 base student cost in Fiscal Year 2024 shall be Seven Thousand One  
418 Hundred Twenty-four Dollars and Fifty-one Cents (\$7,124.51).

419 **SECTION 19.** With the funds provided in this act, it is the  
420 intention of the Legislature that School Attendance Officers and  
421 academic teachers at the Mississippi School for the Deaf and the  
422 Mississippi School for the Blind shall receive their annual  
423 increment.

424 **SECTION 20.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
425 State Board of Education shall maintain complete accounting and  
426 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
427 appropriated in this act and that those records shall be in the  
428 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
429 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
430 budget requests for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to the  
431 Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail  
432 comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the  
433 Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process for each agency and  
434 institution appropriated funds within the provisions of this act.



435           **SECTION 21.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) to the  
436 State Board of Education, not less than Twenty-three Million  
437 Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$23,080,000.00) shall be used for  
438 National Board Certification. Of this amount, Seven Hundred  
439 Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be used for the World Class  
440 Teacher Program providing instruction and assistance to teachers  
441 seeking National Board Certification.

442           **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and  
443 Section 4(a) not less than Fifteen Million Fifty-eight Thousand  
444 Dollars (\$15,058,000.00) shall be used for the Educable Child  
445 Program. It is the intention of the Legislature that the State  
446 Board of Education shall allocate funding for the Educable Child  
447 Program based upon a recalculated formula in a manner to include  
448 only those billable days funded through appropriation of state  
449 funds and not District funds. It is the intent of the Legislature  
450 that the Educable Child funds shall be exempt from budget cuts  
451 made to the Department of Education by the Legislature and/or the  
452 Office of the Governor.

453           **SECTION 23.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and  
454 Section 4(a), not less than Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00)  
455 shall be used for the Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program.  
456 It is the intent of the Legislature that the Education Scholarship  
457 Account (ESA) funds shall not be reduced by the State Department  
458 of Education and/or the Office of the Governor.



459           **SECTION 24.** The public school districts of the state are  
460 authorized at their discretion to pay with local funds one hundred  
461 percent (100%) of the cost of the health insurance premiums of the  
462 State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan for all retired  
463 members of the Public Employees' Retirement System who are  
464 employed as school bus drivers by the school districts. It is the  
465 intention of the Legislature that no state funds shall be used for  
466 this purpose.

467           **SECTION 25.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
468 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
469 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
470 stated in those received bids are equal with respect to price,  
471 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
472 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
473 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
474 made without competitive bids.

475           **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, not less  
476 than Six Million Three Hundred Twenty-one Thousand Nine Hundred  
477 Twenty-seven Dollars (\$6,321,927.00) shall be used for the  
478 Compulsory School Attendance Office and School Attendance  
479 Officers.

480           **SECTION 27.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the  
481 intention of the Legislature that Three Million Sixty Thousand  
482 Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) shall be used for the Mary  
483 Kirkpatrick-Mary Sprayberry Public School Nurse Program. The



484 amount of Three Million Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) is  
485 provided from the Department of Health.

486         **SECTION 28.** The State Department of Education shall contract  
487 with a Certified Public Accountant to calculate components of the  
488 Mississippi Adequate Education Program to include the base student  
489 cost, school district allocations, total program cost, add-on  
490 programs, and any other required components of Section 37-151-7,  
491 Mississippi Code of 1972. The contractor shall be responsible for  
492 calculating the estimates of these components due to the  
493 Legislative Budget Office and the Governor by August 1 and the  
494 final estimates due to the Legislative Budget Office and the  
495 Governor no later than January 2. A report detailing the funding  
496 of this contract shall be submitted by the State Department of  
497 Education to the Legislature no later than January 30, 2024.

498         **SECTION 29.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
499 State Board of Education shall charge a fee for room and board for  
500 students who enroll in the Mississippi School for Mathematics and  
501 Science and the Mississippi School of Arts. Such fees will be  
502 waived for any student enrolled in the State Children's Health  
503 Insurance Program. The amount of such fees shall be Five Hundred  
504 Dollars (\$500.00) for each semester.

505         **SECTION 30.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each  
506 eligible employee who meets the National Board requirements under  
507 Section 37-19-7(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be paid the



508 full supplement and that such supplement shall be included on a  
509 prorated basis in the employee's monthly paycheck.

510         **SECTION 31.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
511 Mississippi Department of Education may loan any general or  
512 special source fund amount, not to exceed Five Million Dollars  
513 (\$5,000,000.00), to any school district for the purpose of  
514 providing funds to school districts through the Emergency  
515 Assistance Fund as outlined in Section 37-17-6, Mississippi Code  
516 of 1972, during the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending  
517 June 30, 2024. The school districts receiving these loans shall  
518 repay the Mississippi Department of Education the amount of the  
519 loan on or before June 30, 2024.

520         **SECTION 32.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Seven  
521 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be transferred to the  
522 Board of Health no later than December 31, 2023.

523         **SECTION 33.** Any school district receiving funds through Save  
524 the Children may provide a ten percent (10%) match from local  
525 funds for implementation of the program.

526         **SECTION 34.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two  
527 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is provided for the Mississippi  
528 Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant  
529 program. A portion of these funds not to exceed one percent (1%)  
530 may be used for training and administrative costs related to  
531 oversight and auditing of the program.



532           **SECTION 35.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and  
533 Section 2(a), Twenty-four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000.00) is  
534 provided for an Early Childhood Education Initiative program. The  
535 funding shall be provided to early learning collaboratives in  
536 Fiscal Year 2024 as follows: no less than Two Thousand Five  
537 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per student in a full-day program and  
538 no less than One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)  
539 per student in a half-day program. Funds must be matched as  
540 provided by Section 37-21-51, Mississippi Code of 1972.

541           **SECTION 36.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and  
542 Section 4(a), Fifteen Million Ninety-four Thousand Five Hundred  
543 Dollars (\$15,094,500.00) shall be used for the Literacy Initiative  
544 and Assessment.

545           **SECTION 37.** Of the funds appropriated herein, funding is  
546 provided for the ACT test, which is the college readiness portion  
547 of the state accountability model.

548           **SECTION 38.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two  
549 Million Seven Hundred One Thousand Seventy-five Dollars  
550 (\$2,701,075.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School of the  
551 Arts and Three Million Nine Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Five  
552 Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$3,957,575.00) shall be used for the  
553 Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. It is the  
554 intention of the Legislature that of the funds appropriated in  
555 Section 1(a) for the Mississippi School of the Arts, One Million  
556 Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars



557 (\$1,350,537.00) shall be paid to the school no later than July 10,  
558 2023, and One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred  
559 Thirty-eight Dollars (\$1,350,538.00) shall be paid no later than  
560 January 10, 2024. All funds appropriated from Section 4(a) for the  
561 Mississippi School of the Arts shall be paid to the school each  
562 month within ten (10) working days after such amount was received  
563 by the Department of Education. It is the intention of the  
564 Legislature that the State Board of Education shall not reduce the  
565 appropriated amounts provided in this act for the Mississippi  
566 School of the Arts and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and  
567 Science.

568 **SECTION 39.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) and  
569 Section 2(b), Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is  
570 provided for career and technical grants to schools for qualified  
571 students as authorized by Section 37-153-15, Mississippi Code of  
572 1972.

573 **SECTION 40.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the  
574 following amounts shall be available to the Schools for the Blind  
575 and Deaf: Ten Million Sixty-two Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-three  
576 Dollars (\$10,062,953.00) from Section 1(a), One Million Three  
577 Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Thirty-seven Dollars (\$1,357,037.00)  
578 from Section 4(a), and Two Million Three Hundred Nine Thousand  
579 Seven Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$2,309,725.00) from Section  
580 2(a).





581           **SECTION 41.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount  
582 not to exceed Four Million One Hundred Seventy-one Thousand Three  
583 Hundred One Dollars (\$4,171,301.00) is authorized to fully fund  
584 the contract between the Department of Education and the Research  
585 & Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to fund career  
586 and technical curricula, services to secondary schools and career  
587 and technical assessments.

588           **SECTION 42.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 (a) to the  
589 State Board of Education, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00)  
590 is provided for the expenditure of funds from the Educational  
591 Facilities Revolving Loan Fund, which was created in Section  
592 37-47-24, Mississippi Code of 1972. These funds are provided for  
593 the purpose of improving educational facilities in the State of  
594 Mississippi by assisting public schools in procuring funds for  
595 making certain capital improvements.

596           **SECTION 43.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (b) to the  
597 State Board of Education, Five Hundred Sixty-two Thousand Nine  
598 Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$562,999.00) is provided for  
599 secondary career and technical education instructors teaching at  
600 post-secondary institutions.

601           **SECTION 44.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
602 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education  
603 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Department of  
604 Education for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of  
605 Education Enhancement Fund, as authorized in House Bill 1600, 2022



606 Regular Session to provide upgrades for the Mississippi Student  
607 Information System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and  
608 ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 3,200,000.00.

609 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
610 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
611 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
612 remaining as of June 30, 2023, from the amount authorized for the  
613 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
614 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

615 **SECTION 45.** With the funds appropriated herein, the  
616 Mississippi Department of Education is authorized to make payment  
617 for expenses incurred during Fiscal Year 2019 to Canon Solutions  
618 America in an amount not to exceed Thirty-five Thousand Eight  
619 Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars (\$35,848.00).

620 **SECTION 46.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each  
621 eligible professional school counselor employee who meets the year  
622 of teaching experience requirements under Section 37-151-5(m),  
623 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be considered having a year of  
624 experience for purposes of the annual experience salary increment.

625 **SECTION 47.** The money appropriated in this act shall be paid  
626 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or  
627 funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State  
628 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his  
629 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or  
630 officers in the manner provided by law.



631           **SECTION 48.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
632 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 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING  
2 K-12 AND OTHER RELATED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CERTAIN  
3 AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, FOR THE FISCAL  
4 YEAR 2024.

