

By: Representatives Bounds, Read, Anderson  
(122nd), Clark, Eure, Hale, Jackson (11th),  
Paden, Pigott

To: Appropriations B;  
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1781

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE GRAND GULF MILITARY MONUMENT COMMISSION FOR  
3 THE FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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 appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the  
8 expenses of the Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission in the  
9 operation and maintenance of the Grand Gulf Military Monument for  
10 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025..  
11 .....\$ 323,650.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
13 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in  
14 the State Treasury to the credit of the Grand Gulf Military  
15 Monument Commission, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of  
16 the commission in the operation and maintenance of the Grand Gulf  
17 Military Monument for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and  
18 ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 119,017.00.



19           **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
20 this act, the following positions are authorized:

21       AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

22           Permanent:                       7

23           Time-Limited:                   0

24           With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
25 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
26 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds  
27 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
28 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi  
29 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's personal  
30 services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board shall  
31 publish. In accordance with applicable laws, if an agency  
32 determines that its personal services amount is insufficient, the  
33 agency must contact the State Personnel Board. Any adjustment to  
34 the personal services amount must be approved by the State  
35 Personnel Director and the State Fiscal Officer after consultation  
36 with the Legislative Budget Office. Any adjustment shall be  
37 reported to the Legislative Budget Office and the House and Senate  
38 Appropriations Chairmen. The agency's personal services  
39 appropriation may consist of restricted funds for approved  
40 vacancies for Fiscal Year 2025 that may not be utilized for active  
41 Fiscal Year 2024 headcount. It shall be the agency's  
42 responsibility to ensure that the funds provided for vacancies are  
43 used to increase headcount and not for promotions, title changes,



44 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing  
45 salaries for current employees. If the State Personnel Board  
46 determines that an agency has used provided vacancy funds for any  
47 of the mechanisms previously listed, the State Personnel Board  
48 shall not process any additional salary actions for the agency in  
49 the current fiscal year, except for new hires determined by the  
50 State Personnel Board to be essential for the agency. It is the  
51 Legislature's intention that no employee salary falls below the  
52 minimum salary established by the Mississippi State Personnel  
53 Board.

54         Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
55 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
56 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
57 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do  
58 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
59 the agency's projected cost for Fiscal Year 2025 exceeds the  
60 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
61 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
62 essential for the agency.

63         Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
64 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
65 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
66 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
67 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
68 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written



69 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
70 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
71 appropriated level.

72 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
73 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for  
74 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are  
75 withdrawn and no longer available.

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

80 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
81 Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission shall maintain complete  
82 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
83 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
84 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
85 Year 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that  
86 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be  
87 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
88 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
89 provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

90 **SECTION 5.** It shall be unlawful for any officer, employee or  
91 other person whatsoever to use or permit or authorize the use of  
92 any automobile or any other motor vehicle owned by the State of  
93 Mississippi or any department, agency or institution thereof for



94 any purpose other than upon the official business of the State of  
95 Mississippi or any agency, department or institution thereof.

96 It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles  
97 authorized to be owned and operated by this agency shall comply  
98 with Sections 25-1-77 through 25-1-93, Mississippi Code of 1972.

99 **SECTION 6.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
100 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital  
101 Expense Fund, not otherwise appropriated for Grand Gulf Military  
102 Monument Commission for the purpose of reauthorizing the  
103 expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB 1618,  
104 2023 Regular Session, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of  
105 Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission for the fiscal year  
106 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
107 .....\$ 497,245.00.

108 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
109 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
110 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
111 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the  
112 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
113 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

114 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
115 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
116 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
117 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
118 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind



119 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
120 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
121 made without competitive bids.

122 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
123 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
124 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
125 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
126 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
127 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
128 actions contrary to this provision.

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

135 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
136 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2024.

