

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

To: Appropriations B;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1786

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 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 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, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
11\$ 19,423,699.00.

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

14 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

15 Permanent: 109
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 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds
20 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
21 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
22 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's personal
23 services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board shall
24 publish. In accordance with applicable laws, if an agency
25 determines that its personal services amount is insufficient, the
26 agency must contact the State Personnel Board. Any adjustment to
27 the personal services amount must be approved by the State
28 Personnel Director and the State Fiscal Officer after consultation
29 with the Legislative Budget Office. Any adjustment shall be
30 reported to the Legislative Budget Office and the House and Senate
31 Appropriations Chairmen. The agency's personal services
32 appropriation may consist of restricted funds for approved
33 vacancies for Fiscal Year 2025 that may not be utilized for active
34 Fiscal Year 2024 headcount. It shall be the agency's
35 responsibility to ensure that the funds provided for vacancies are
36 used to increase headcount and not for promotions, title changes,
37 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
38 salaries for current employees. If the State Personnel Board
39 determines that an agency has used provided vacancy funds for any
40 of the mechanisms previously listed, the State Personnel Board
41 shall not process any additional salary actions for the agency in
42 the current fiscal year, except for new hires determined by the
43 State Personnel Board to be essential for the agency. It is the



44 Legislature's intention that no employee salary falls below the
45 minimum salary established by the Mississippi State Personnel
46 Board.

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

56 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
57 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
58 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
59 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
60 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
61 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
62 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
63 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
64 appropriated level.

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



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

73 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
74 Pearl River Valley Water Supply District shall maintain complete
75 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
76 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
77 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
78 Year 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
79 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be
80 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
81 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
82 provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

83 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
84 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
85 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
86 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
87 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
88 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
89 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
90 made without competitive bids.

91 **SECTION 5.** The funds herein approved for expenditure, except
92 and less an amount approved by the State Fiscal Officer which
93 shall be sufficient to cover disbursements for current operations,



94 shall be deposited at interest with any official depository of the
95 state at a rate of interest numerically not less than one percent
96 (1%) below the bank discount rate on United States Treasury bills
97 of comparable maturity as determined by the State Treasurer.

98 **SECTION 6.** None of the funds appropriated for expenditure
99 under this act may be expended by Pearl River Valley Water Supply
100 District until the district agrees to comply with the following
101 condition: the District shall waive traffic control fees for any
102 vehicle displaying a "REZ" tag.

103 **SECTION 7.** None of the funds appropriated for expenditure
104 under this act may be expended by Pearl River Valley Water Supply
105 District until the district agrees to comply with the following
106 conditions: (1) If any local governmental or nonprofit entity
107 wins the bid for the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major
108 Open, these events shall be exempt from the district's lottery
109 system for host events at the reservoir and given priority of any
110 and all date options available. (2) If any local governmental or
111 nonprofit entity wins the bid for such events, the district shall
112 waive the daily launch fees or any other special event fees for
113 the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major Open. (3) The
114 Catch A Dream Foundation Bass Classic shall be held on the first
115 Sunday in May unless any local governmental or nonprofit entity
116 wins the bid for the ESPN Bass Masters Classic or the FLW Major
117 Open on that date. The Catch A Dream Foundation Bass Classic
118 shall be exempt from the district's lottery system for host events



119 at the reservoir and given priority for the first Sunday in May.
120 The district shall waive the daily launch fees or any other
121 special event fees for the Classic.

122 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Two Hundred
123 Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) is provided for salary increase for
124 the purpose of funding overtime, callback or standby pay.

125 **SECTION 9.** Funds are provided herein out of the Ross Barnett
126 Reservoir Dredging Fund for dredging and other related activities
127 to remove sediments and debris from the bottom of the Ross Barnett
128 Reservoir.

129 **SECTION 10.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
130 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
131 Expense Fund, not otherwise appropriated for Pearl River Valley
132 Water Supply District for the purpose of reauthorizing the
133 expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB 1631,
134 2023 Regular Session, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of
135 Pearl River Valley Water Supply District for the fiscal year
136 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
137\$ 1,352,364.00.

138 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
139 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
140 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
141 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the
142 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
143 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.



144 **SECTION 11.** The funds herein appropriated shall be expended
145 in compliance with Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972,
146 that no state agency shall incur obligations or indebtedness in
147 excess of their appropriation and that the responsible officers,
148 either personally or upon their official bonds, shall be held
149 responsible for actions contrary to this provision.

150 **SECTION 12.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall
151 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer
152 or officers, in the manner provided by law or in accordance with
153 the provisions of a valid trust indenture.

154 **SECTION 13.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
155 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
156 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
157 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
158 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
159 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

160 **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
161 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2024.

