

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

To: Appropriations B;  
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1790

1 AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY  
3 WATER MANAGEMENT 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 funds which are received by or otherwise become available to the  
8 Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District, for the purpose  
9 of paying bond maturities, accrued interest, maintenance expenses,  
10 project development costs, and any other authorized expenses of  
11 the water management district, for the fiscal year beginning  
12 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 7,706,169.00.

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

15 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

16 Permanent: 17  
17 Time-Limited: 0



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



43 the current fiscal year, except for new hires determined by the  
44 State Personnel Board to be essential for the agency. It is the  
45 Legislature's intention that no employee salary falls below the  
46 minimum salary established by the Mississippi State Personnel  
47 Board.

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

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

66 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
67 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for



68 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are  
69 withdrawn and no longer available.

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

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

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



93           **SECTION 5.** All monies in possession of the district in  
94 excess of necessary operating funds shall be deposited with a bank  
95 or banks selected by the board of directors of the district.  
96 These funds shall be deposited in such bank or banks and in such  
97 manner that interest earned shall be at least equal to interest  
98 earnings on state funds deposited by the State Treasury.

99           **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
100 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
101 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
102 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
103 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
104 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
105 actions contrary to this provision.

106           **SECTION 7.** The money herein approved for expenditure shall  
107 be disbursed upon bank checks signed by the proper person, officer  
108 or officers, in the manner provided by law.

109           **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
110 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2024.

