

By: Representatives Mims, Read, Barton,  
Cockerham, Faulkner, Hood, McKnight, Rushing,  
Watson

To: Appropriations D;  
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1812

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR FISCAL YEAR  
3 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 Office of the Attorney General for the fiscal year  
9 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
10 .....\$ 29,813,767.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special  
13 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Office of the  
14 Attorney General which is comprised of special source funds  
15 collected by or otherwise available to the office, for the purpose  
16 of defraying the expenses of the office for the fiscal year  
17 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
18 .....\$ 9,470,818.00.



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

21       AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

22           Permanent:	Full Time.....	88
23           Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	204

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

90 **SECTION 5.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
91 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
92 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
93 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the



94 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
95 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
96 performance measures provided below:

97 FY2025

98 Performance Measures Target

99 Supportive Services

100 Cost of Support Services as Percent of

101 Budget, 2011-2012 Baseline: 5.10% 6.00

102 Training

103 Ratings of Continuing Legal Education

104 Training Presentation by Participants 95

105 Ratings of CRIMES System Training

106 Presentation by Participants 0

107 Litigation

108 Minimum Affirmations of Criminal

109 Convictions 2011-2012 Baseline: 90.00% 95.00

110 Minimum Affirmations of Death Penalty

111 Appeals 2011-2012 Baseline: 83.33% 85.00

112 Minimum Denial of Relief in Federal

113 Habeas Corpus 2011-2012 Baseline: 86.96% 97.00

114 Minimum Pos Results of Civil Cases

115 2011-2012 Baseline: 96.00% 96.00

116 Percent Change of Affirmations of

117 Criminal Convictions Attained 0.00

118 Percent Change of Death Penalty Review



119	Cases Affirmed	0.00
120	Percent of Change of Appeals for Relief	
121	in Federal Habeas Corpus Cases Denied	0.00
122	Percent Change of Positive Results from	
123	Civil Cases	0.00
124	Opinions	
125	Percent Assigned to Attorneys in 3 Days	
126	or Less, 2011-2012 Baseline: 100.00%	100.00
127	Percent of Opinions Completed in 30 Days	
128	or Less, 2011-2012 Baseline: 76.00%	75.00
129	Percent Change of Opinion Requests	
130	Assigned to Attorneys within 3 Days or	
131	Less	0.00
132	Percent Change of Opinion Requests	
133	Completed within 30 Days or Less	5.00
134	State Agency Contracts	
135	Percent of Good and Excellent Ratings	
136	for Legal Services, 2011-2012 Baseline:	
137	94.00%	100.00
138	Percent Change of Good/Excellent Ratings	
139	for Legal Services	0.00
140	Insurance Integrity Enforcement	
141	Minimum Positive Results of Workers'	
142	Compensation Cases 2011-2012 Baseline:	
143	90.00%	99.00



144	Minimum Positive Results of Insurance	
145	Cases 2011-2012 Baseline: 90.00%	99.00
146	Percent Change of Positive Results of	
147	Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud	5.00
148	Percent Change of Positive Results of	
149	Other Insurance Cases	0.00
150	Other Mandated Programs	
151	Medicaid Fraud Convictions vs	
152	Dispositions 2011-2012 Baseline:	
153	100.00%	100.00
154	Medicaid Abuse Convictions vs	
155	Dispositions 2011-2012 Baseline: 95.00%	95.00
156	Minimum Defendants Convicted after	
157	Indictments (PID) 2011-2012 Baseline:	
158	96.00%	90.00
159	Response to Consumer Complaints (Days)	
160	2011-2012 Baseline: 3.14%	5.00
161	Average Number of Days to Respond to	
162	Consumer Complaints	5
163	Percent Change of Medicaid Fraud	
164	Convictions vs Dispositions	0.00
165	Percent Change of Medicaid Abuse	
166	Convictions vs Dispositions	0.00
167	Percent Change of Defendants Convicted	
168	After Indictment	0.00



169 Crime Victims Compensation  
170 Percent of Claims Processed in 12 Weeks  
171 or Less, 2011-2012 Baseline: 67.97% 75.00  
172 Percent Change of Claims Processed Timely 0.00

173 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
174 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
175 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
176 Committee for Fiscal Year 2026.

177 **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
178 Section 1, funds included therein which are derived from penalties  
179 and/or other funds collected by the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit  
180 shall be available for the purpose of providing the state match  
181 for federal funds available for the support of the unit, or for  
182 other lawful purposes as deemed appropriate by the Attorney  
183 General. Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that any  
184 penalties and/or other funds collected and/or expended shall be  
185 accounted for separately as to source and/or application of such  
186 funds.

187 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
188 Section 1, the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), or  
189 so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be made available for  
190 expenditure by the Prosecutors Training Division.

191 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, the sum  
192 of Six Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$680,000.00) is provided





193 from the Department of Health for the Alcohol and Tobacco  
194 Enforcement Unit.

195       **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is the  
196 intention of the Legislature that Five Million Six Hundred Ninety  
197 Thousand Three Hundred Forty-six Dollars (\$5,690,346.00) may be  
198 allocated for the programs supported from General Fund court  
199 assessments as follows:

200	State Prosecutor Education.....	\$	662,582.00
201	Crime Victims Compensation.....	\$	1,901,332.00
202	Vulnerable Persons Training, Invest and 203 Prosecution Trust.....	\$	565,165.00
204	Child Support Prosecution Trust.....	\$	128,475.00
205	Law Enforcement & Firefighters Disability 206 Benefits Trust.....	\$	133,666.00
207	Cyber Crime Unit.....	\$	944,722.00
208	Domestic Violence Training.....	\$	376,580.00
209	Children's Advocacy Centers.....	\$	554,489.00
210	Crime Victims Compensation Admin.....	\$	347,547.00
211	Motorcycle Officer Training.....	\$	62,763.00
212	District Attorney Operations.....	\$	13,025.00

213 It is the intention of the Legislature that the Attorney  
214 General's Office shall prepare and submit a quarterly report to  
215 the Chairmen of the Appropriation Committees of the Senate and  
216 House of Representatives that details the expenditures made for  
217 programs supported from General Fund court assessments allocated



218 in this section. This report shall be submitted no later than the  
219 15th day of the month succeeding the end of each calendar quarter.

220 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Two  
221 Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), or so much  
222 thereof, is provided for the purpose of providing funds to the  
223 Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation  
224 Fund.

225 **SECTION 11.** In addition to all other sums herein  
226 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
227 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
228 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the  
229 expenses of the Attorney General's Office to administer the  
230 Mississippi Telephone Solicitation Act, for the fiscal year  
231 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
232 .....\$ 240,627.00.

233 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
234 of Section 11 of this act, the following positions are authorized:

235 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

236 Permanent: Full Time..... 3  
237 Time-Limited: Full Time..... 0

238 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
239 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
240 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds  
241 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
242 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi



243 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's personal  
244 services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board shall  
245 publish. In accordance with applicable laws, if an agency  
246 determines that its personal services amount is insufficient, the  
247 agency must contact the State Personnel Board. Any adjustment to  
248 the personal services amount must be approved by the State  
249 Personnel Director and the State Fiscal Officer after consultation  
250 with the Legislative Budget Office. Any adjustment shall be  
251 reported to the Legislative Budget Office and the House and Senate  
252 Appropriations Chairmen. The agency's personal services  
253 appropriation may consist of restricted funds for approved  
254 vacancies for Fiscal Year 2025 that may not be utilized for active  
255 Fiscal Year 2024 headcount. It shall be the agency's  
256 responsibility to ensure that the funds provided for vacancies are  
257 used to increase headcount and not for promotions, title changes,  
258 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing  
259 salaries for current employees. If the State Personnel Board  
260 determines that an agency has used provided vacancy funds for any  
261 of the mechanisms previously listed, the State Personnel Board  
262 shall not process any additional salary actions for the agency in  
263 the current fiscal year, except for new hires determined by the  
264 State Personnel Board to be essential for the agency. It is the  
265 Legislature's intention that no employee salary falls below the  
266 minimum salary established by the Mississippi State Personnel  
267 Board.



268           Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
269 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
270 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
271 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do  
272 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
273 the agency's projected cost for Fiscal Year 2025 exceeds the  
274 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
275 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
276 essential for the agency.

277           Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
278 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
279 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
280 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
281 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
282 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
283 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
284 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
285 appropriated level.

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

290           None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in  
291 violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A



292 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as  
293 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

294       **SECTION 13.** No part of the money herein appropriated shall  
295 be used, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of paying  
296 any clerk, stenographer, assistant, deputy or other person who may  
297 be related by blood or marriage within the third degree, computed  
298 by the rules of civil law, to the official employing or having the  
299 right of employment or selection thereof; and in the event of any  
300 such payment, then the official or person approving and making or  
301 receiving such payment shall be jointly and severally liable to  
302 return to the State of Mississippi and to pay into the State  
303 Treasury three (3) times any such amount so paid or received;  
304 however, when the relationship is by affinity and the person  
305 through whom the relationship was established is dead, this  
306 provision shall not apply.

307       **SECTION 14.** None of the funds appropriated by this act shall  
308 be expended for any purpose that is not actually required or  
309 necessary for performing any of the powers or duties of the Office  
310 of the Attorney General that are authorized by the Mississippi  
311 Constitution of 1890, state or federal law, or rules or  
312 regulations that implement state or federal law.

313       **SECTION 15.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
314 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
315 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
316 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,



317 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
318 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
319 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
320 made without competitive bids.

321 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, funds are  
322 provided to defray the expenses of litigation defending the  
323 constitutionality of Mississippi statutes.

324 **SECTION 17.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
325 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
326 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
327 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
328 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
329 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

330 **SECTION 18.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
331 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2024.

