

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, DeLano,
Barnett, McCaughn, McLendon

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3038

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF
2 ANIMAL HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 BOARD FOR 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 hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
8 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Board of Animal Health
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending

10 June 30, 2025.....\$ 1,646,814.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special
13 source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available
14 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Board
15 of Animal Health, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and
16 ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 1,236,452.00.

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



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 23

21 Time-Limited: 5

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



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

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

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



68 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
69 appropriated level.

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

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

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

86 **SECTION 5.** The Mississippi Board of Animal Health is
87 authorized to accept and expend any grant, donation, or
88 contribution from any individual, public or private organization,
89 or government entity for purposes of defraying the operational
90 costs of the department. Such grants, donations, contributions,
91 and any carryover funds shall be received and expended under the
92 rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and



93 Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of
94 federal funds not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
95 (\$500,000.00).

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

103 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds in Section 2 of this act, Two
104 Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) is provided from the
105 Animal Health Disaster Response Fund. These funds are provided
106 for expenses incurred by the Board of Animal Health in responding
107 to animal disease outbreaks as outlined in Section 69-15-21,
108 Mississippi Code of 1972.

109 **SECTION 8.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
110 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
111 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
112 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
113 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
114 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

115 **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
116 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed from and after
117 June 30, 2024.

