

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.

