

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Williams,
Michel, Seymour, Tate

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3041

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI GAMING COMMISSION 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 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 Gaming Commission for
9 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending

10 June 30, 2025.....\$ 8,915,215.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
13 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Gaming
14 Commission, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
15 commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending

16 June 30, 2025.....\$ 1,626,774.00.

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



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 118

21 Time-Limited: 0

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.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
79 act, a portion shall be derived from the amount of forfeited
80 property that is seized by the Gaming Commission, which shall be
81 deposited into a special fund created by the Department of Finance
82 and Administration and may be expended by the commission for the
83 specific purpose of increasing law enforcement resources as
84 outlined in Section 41-29-185, Mississippi Code 1972.

85 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
86 act, a portion shall be derived from the amount that is received
87 by the Gaming Commission under the Gaming Control Act, which shall
88 be deposited into a special fund created by the Department of
89 Finance and Administration and may be expended by the commission
90 for the purpose of investigating, permitting, interagency fees,
91 and providing fingerprint analysis by the Department of Public
92 Safety.



93 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
94 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
95 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
96 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
97 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
98 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
99 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
100 made without competitive bids.

101 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
102 Gaming Commission shall maintain complete accounting and personnel
103 records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under
104 this act and that such records shall be in the same format and
105 level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2024. It is further
106 the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request
107 for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative
108 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the
109 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2025
110 budget request process.

111 **SECTION 8.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
112 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
113 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
114 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
115 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
116 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
117 performance measures provided below:



| | | |
|-----|--|---------------|
| 118 | | FY2025 |
| 119 | <u>Performance Measures</u> | <u>Target</u> |
| 120 | Riverboat Gaming | |
| 121 | Annual State Riverboat Gaming Revenues | |
| 122 | (Billions) | 2.00 |
| 123 | Number of Casinos Regulated | 26 |
| 124 | Average Cost per Employee to Total State | |
| 125 | Riverboat Gaming Revenues | 18,476,000.00 |
| 126 | Charitable Bingo | |
| 127 | Number of Bingo Applications Received | 30 |
| 128 | Number of Bingo Halls Regulated | 50 |
| 129 | Average Cost per Employee to Total State | |
| 130 | Charitable Bingo Revenues | 4,676,905.00 |

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

135 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
136 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
137 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
138 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
139 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
140 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
141 actions contrary to this provision.



142 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
143 act, it is the intention of the Legislature that Seventy-five
144 Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) is authorized to be transferred to
145 the nonprofit organization, Mississippi Council on Compulsive
146 Gambling, which provides crisis intervention and support services.

147 **SECTION 11.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
148 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
149 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
150 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
151 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
152 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

153 **SECTION 12.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
154 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed from and after
155 June 30, 2024.

