

23 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
24 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
25 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's personal
26 services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board shall
27 publish. In accordance with applicable laws, if an agency
28 determines that its personal services amount is insufficient, the
29 agency must contact the State Personnel Board. Any adjustment to
30 the personal services amount must be approved by the State
31 Personnel Director and the State Fiscal Officer after consultation
32 with the Legislative Budget Office. Any adjustment shall be
33 reported to the Legislative Budget Office and the House and Senate
34 Appropriations Chairmen. The agency's personal services
35 appropriation may consist of restricted funds for approved
36 vacancies for Fiscal Year 2025 that may not be utilized for active
37 Fiscal Year 2024 headcount. It shall be the agency's
38 responsibility to ensure that the funds provided for vacancies are
39 used to increase headcount and not for promotions, title changes,
40 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
41 salaries for current employees. If the State Personnel Board
42 determines that an agency has used provided vacancy funds for any
43 of the mechanisms previously listed, the State Personnel Board
44 shall not process any additional salary actions for the agency in
45 the current fiscal year, except for new hires determined by the
46 State Personnel Board to be essential for the agency. It is the
47 Legislature's intention that no employee salary falls below the

48 minimum salary established by the Mississippi State Personnel
49 Board.

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

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

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

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

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

76 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
77 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification
78 Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records
79 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this
80 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of
81 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2024. It is further the
82 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for
83 Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative
84 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the
85 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2025
86 budget request process.

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

95 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
96 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
97 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
98 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
99 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally

100 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
101 actions contrary to this provision.

102 **SECTION 6.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
103 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
104 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
105 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
106 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
107 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

108 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
109 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed June 29, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 MISSISSIPPI REAL ESTATE APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION
4 BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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Amanda White
Secretary of the Senate