

Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1820

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
13 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the
14 expenses of the Mississippi State Supreme Court for the fiscal
15 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
16\$ 7,415,985.00.

17 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
18 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in
19 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi State Supreme
20 Court which is comprised of special source funds collected by or
21 otherwise available to the Mississippi State Supreme Court, for
22 the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi State
23 Supreme Court for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and
24 ending June 30, 2025\$ 964,021.00.

25 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
26 this act for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the

27 Mississippi State Supreme Court, the following positions are
28 authorized:

29 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

30 Permanent: 70

31 Time-Limited: 0

32 **SECTION 4.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
33 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
34 Fund not otherwise appropriated to the Mississippi State Supreme
35 Court for the purpose of defraying the expenses of special judges,
36 chancellors and circuit judges for the fiscal year beginning
37 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 32,363,429.00.

38 **SECTION 5.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
39 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in
40 the State Treasury to the credit of the trial judges, for the
41 purpose of defraying the expenses of special judges, chancellors
42 and circuit judges for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and
43 ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 4,192,368.00.

44 **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under Sections 4 and 5
45 of this act for the purpose of defraying the expenses of special
46 judges, chancellors and circuit judges, the following positions
47 are authorized:

48 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

49 Permanent: 109

50 Time-Limited: 0

51 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated under Sections 4 and 5
52 of this act, Ten Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars

53 (\$10,900,000.00) is provided for the purpose of employing support
54 staff in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars
55 (\$100,000.00) per fiscal year per judge.

56 **SECTION 8.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
57 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
58 Fund, not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of funding the
59 Administrative Office of Courts for the fiscal year beginning
60 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 16,852,868.00.

61 **SECTION 9.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
62 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in
63 the State Treasury to the credit of the Administrative Office of
64 Courts for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
65 Administrative Office of Courts and the Board of Certified Court
66 Reporters for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
67 June 30, 2025.....\$ 27,461,955.00.

68 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
69 of this act for the purpose of funding the Administrative Office
70 of Courts, the following positions are authorized:

71 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

72 Permanent: 48

73 Time-Limited: 0

74 **SECTION 11.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
75 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Continuing
76 Legal Education Fund, a special fund hereby created in the State
77 Treasury, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of providing

78 continuing legal education programs to lawyers in Mississippi, for
79 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025..
80\$ 159,397.00.

81 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
82 interest earned from any investment or deposit to the Continuing
83 Legal Education Fund made pursuant to Section 27-105-33,
84 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be credited by the State Treasurer
85 to the Continuing Legal Education Fund and shall not be paid into
86 the General Fund of Mississippi.

87 **SECTION 13.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
88 of this act for the purpose of providing continuing legal
89 education programs, the following positions are authorized:

90 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

91 Permanent: 2
92 Time-Limited: 0

93 **SECTION 14.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
94 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
95 Fund not otherwise appropriated to the Mississippi State Supreme
96 Court for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Court of
97 Appeals for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
98 June 30, 2025.....\$ 5,237,619.00.

99 **SECTION 15.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
100 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
101 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi State Supreme
102 Court, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Court of

103 Appeals for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
104 June 30, 2025.....\$ 1,615,045.00.

105 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
106 of this act for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Court
107 of Appeals, the following positions are authorized:

108 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

109 Permanent: 58

110 Time-Limited: 0

111 **SECTION 17.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
112 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
113 the State Treasury to the credit of the Board of Bar Admissions,
114 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the board for the
115 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
116\$ 359,694.00.

117 **SECTION 18.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
118 interest earned from any investment or deposit to the Board of Bar
119 Admissions Fund made pursuant to Section 27-105-33, Mississippi
120 Code of 1972, shall be credited by the State Treasurer to the
121 Board of Bar Admissions Fund and shall not be paid into the
122 General Fund of Mississippi.

123 **SECTION 19.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
124 of this act for the purpose of funding the Board of Bar
125 Admissions, the following positions are authorized:

126 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

127 Permanent: 3

128 Time-Limited: 0

129 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
130 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law.

131 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
132 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are
133 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this
134 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

135 **SECTION 20.** No part of the funds herein appropriated shall
136 be used in the payment of attorney's fees, nor shall any of such
137 funds be used, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of
138 paying any clerk, stenographer, assistant, deputy or other person
139 who may be related by blood or marriage within the third degree,
140 computed by the rules of civil law, to the official employing or
141 having the right of employment or selection thereof; and in the
142 event of any such payment, then the official or person approving
143 and making or receiving such payment shall be jointly and
144 severally liable to return to the State of Mississippi and to pay
145 into the State Treasury three (3) times any such amount so paid or
146 received, to be recovered at suit of the Attorney General;
147 however, when the relationship is by affinity and the person
148 through whom the relationship was established is dead, this
149 provision shall not apply.

150 **SECTION 21.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the
151 Mississippi State Supreme Court shall charge the maximum amount
152 allowable by law for services rendered where charges for such
153 services are provided for by statute, and for any other services
154 rendered, shall charge an amount consistent with the cost of

155 providing such services. The funds derived from these charges
156 shall be deposited into a special fund account in the State
157 Treasury to the credit of the Office of the Mississippi State
158 Supreme Court.

159 **SECTION 22.** It is the intent of the Legislature that no part
160 of the funds herein appropriated shall be required to be used for
161 the payment of rent for the public space in the Law Library.

162 **SECTION 23.** In accordance with Section 9-21-13, Mississippi
163 Code of 1972, the Director of the Administrative Office of Courts
164 is authorized to direct expenditures of state monies appropriated
165 to the Administrative Office of Courts or any courts of the state
166 for any and all functions or projects directly or indirectly
167 affecting the operation of any court and may transfer monies
168 appropriated for the office or any account to any one or more
169 other accounts or office. The Director of the Administrative
170 Office of Courts shall notify, in writing, the Lieutenant
171 Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
172 Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of
173 the House Appropriations A Committee, and the Legislative Budget
174 Office of any transfer. The written notification shall include
175 the justification for the transfer of funds, an explanation of
176 need, the amount, and where the funds will be used. This written
177 notification shall be sent on or before the fifteenth day of the
178 month prior to the effective date of the transfer.

179 **SECTION 24.** Of the funds provided in Section 8, Three
180 Hundred Eighty-nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-five Dollars

181 (\$389,665.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary, is provided
182 for the Capitol Complex Improvement District inferior court judge
183 and the support staff pursuant to House Bill 1020, 2023 Regular
184 Session, and engrossed in Section 9-12-1, Mississippi Code of
185 1972. These employees shall be utilized for the Capitol Complex
186 Improvement District established in Section 29-5-203, Mississippi
187 Code of 1972.

188 **SECTION 25.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
189 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
190 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
191 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
192 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
193 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
194 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
195 made without competitive bids.

196 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
197 of this act, an amount not to exceed Two Million Four Hundred
198 Sixty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,460,500.00) may be
199 provided for the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund
200 administered by the Administrative Office of Courts.

201 **SECTION 27.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
202 Mississippi State Supreme Court shall maintain complete accounting
203 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
204 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
205 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
206 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the

207 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to
208 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
209 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
210 during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

211 **SECTION 28.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
212 of this act, Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
213 (\$2,500,000.00) shall be provided for the Youth Court Support Fund
214 administered by the Administrative Office of Courts.

215 **SECTION 29.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 8, Nine
216 Million Dollars (\$9,000,000.00) is provided to defray the costs of
217 the Drug Court Program.

218 **SECTION 30.** It is the intention of the Legislature that in
219 the event there are not sufficient funds in the Judicial System
220 Operation Fund created under Section 9-21-45, Mississippi Code of
221 1972, in any given year with which to pay the annual salary
222 supplements set forth in Section 25-3-35, Mississippi Code of
223 1972, then the county treasury shall not be obligated to fund such
224 salary supplements and the salary of county court judges shall be
225 that in place prior to the passage of Section 9-9-11, Mississippi
226 Code of 1972.

227 **SECTION 31.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 8, it is
228 the intention of the Legislature that an amount of Six Million
229 Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,700,000.00) may be allocated
230 for the programs supported from General Fund court assessments as
231 follows:

232 Drug Courts.....\$ 6,500,000.00

233 Civil Legal Assistance.....\$ 200,000.00

234 **SECTION 32.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
235 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
236 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Supreme Court -
237 Administrative Office of Courts, for the purpose of reauthorizing
238 the expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB
239 1640, 2023 Regular Session, for programmers, trainers and
240 operations for the Mississippi Electronic Courts (MEC) System to
241 meet the mandate to bring all the courts into the MEC System for
242 the Supreme Court - Administrative Office of Courts for the fiscal
243 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
244\$ 362,686.00.

245 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
246 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
247 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
248 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the
249 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
250 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

251 **SECTION 33.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
252 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
253 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Supreme Court -
254 Administrative Office of Courts, for the purpose of reauthorizing
255 the expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB
256 1640, 2023 Regular Session, for IT equipment and Youth Court
257 computers for the Supreme Court - Administrative Office of Courts

258 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30,
259 2025.....\$ 310,000.00.

260 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
261 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
262 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
263 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the
264 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
265 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

266 **SECTION 34.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
267 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
268 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Supreme Court -
269 Administrative Office of Courts, for the purpose of reauthorizing
270 the expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB
271 1640, 2023 Regular Session, for temporary Intake Officers for the
272 Supreme Court - Administrative Office of Courts for the fiscal
273 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
274\$ 500,000.00.

275 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
276 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
277 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
278 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the
279 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
280 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

281 **SECTION 35.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
282 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
283 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon

284 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
285 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
286 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

287 **SECTION 36.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
288 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 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE SUPREME COURT WHICH IS
3 COMPRISED OF THE SUPREME COURT, THE OFFICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
4 CLERK AND THE STATE LAW LIBRARY AND TO PAY EXPENSES OF SPECIAL
5 JUDGES, CHANCELLORS AND CIRCUIT JUDGES, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF
6 DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF COURTS AND
7 CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS, CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION, COURT OF
8 APPEALS AND THE BOARD OF BAR ADMISSIONS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025;
9 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

SS15\HB1820A.J

Amanda White
Secretary of the Senate