

By: Representative Kinkade

To: Appropriations B;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1636

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT
2 OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE
3 SALARIES OF CONSERVATION OFFICERS AND THEIR ALLOWANCE FOR UNIFORMS
4 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be
7 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
8 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Mississippi Department of
9 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for the purpose of increasing
10 conservation officer salaries for the fiscal year beginning July
11 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026..... \$ 1,941,952.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** The funds appropriated under Section 1 of this
13 act shall be used to increase the annual salary of each
14 conservation officer employed by the Mississippi Department of
15 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks in a manner that will effectuate an
16 average annual increase in the compensation of all conservation
17 officers, across all ranks, in the amount of thirteen and
18 thirty-four one-hundredths percent (13.34%). If the increase in
19 compensation provided for in this section would cause an



20 employee's compensation to be in excess of the compensation of the
21 Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
22 Fisheries and Parks, then that employee's compensation may be
23 increased only to the extent that the employee's salary will be
24 equal in amount to the compensation of the executive director. If
25 an employee is unable to receive the full amount of the salary
26 increase provided for in this section because to award the entire
27 allowable increase would cause that employee's base salary to
28 exceed the end step of the employee's particular job
29 classification, the State Personnel Board shall amend the Variable
30 Compensation Plan by increasing the end step of that particular
31 job classification in an amount necessary to enable all employees
32 in that particular job classification to be eligible to receive
33 the full salary increase to which they are entitled under this
34 section.

35 **SECTION 3.** Each conservation officer and supervisor shall be
36 furnished an allowance for uniforms not to exceed Seven Hundred
37 Fifty Dollars (\$750.00).

38 **SECTION 4.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid
39 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State General Fund
40 not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants issued by the State
41 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue the
42 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or
43 officers in the manner provided by law.



44 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after July 1, 2025.

