

By: Representatives Bounds, Read, Anderson  
(122nd), Clark, Eure, Hale, Jackson (11th),  
Paden, Pigott

To: Appropriations B;  
Appropriations A

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1727

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE GRAND GULF MILITARY MONUMENT COMMISSION FOR  
3 THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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 appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the  
8 expenses of the Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission in the  
9 operation and maintenance of the Grand Gulf Military Monument for  
10 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026..  
11 .....\$ 269,654.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
13 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in  
14 the State Treasury to the credit of the Grand Gulf Military  
15 Monument Commission, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of  
16 the commission in the operation and maintenance of the Grand Gulf  
17 Military Monument for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and  
18 ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 108,294.00.



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

21       AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

22           Permanent:                       7

23           Time-Limited:                   0

24           With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
25 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
26 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
27 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
28 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
29 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
30 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
31 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
32 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
33 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
34 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
35 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
36 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
37 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
38 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
39 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
40 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

41           Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
42 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
43 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to



44 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
45 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
46 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
47 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
48 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
49 essential for the agency.

50 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
51 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
52 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
53 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
54 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
55 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
56 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
57 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
58 appropriated level.

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

63 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in  
64 violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A  
65 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as  
66 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

67 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
68 Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission shall maintain complete



69 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
70 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
71 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
72 Year 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that  
73 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be  
74 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
75 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
76 provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

77       **SECTION 5.** It shall be unlawful for any officer, employee or  
78 other person whatsoever to use or permit or authorize the use of  
79 any automobile or any other motor vehicle owned by the State of  
80 Mississippi or any department, agency or institution thereof for  
81 any purpose other than upon the official business of the State of  
82 Mississippi or any agency, department or institution thereof.

83       It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles  
84 authorized to be owned and operated by this agency shall comply  
85 with Sections 25-1-77 through 25-1-93, Mississippi Code of 1972.

86       **SECTION 6.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
87 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital  
88 Expense Fund, not otherwise appropriated for Grand Gulf Military  
89 Monument Commission for the purpose of reauthorizing the  
90 expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, as authorized in HB 1781,  
91 2024 Regular Session, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of  
92 Grand Gulf Military Monument Commission for the fiscal year  
93 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....



94 .....\$ 273,499.00.

95       Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
96 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
97 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
98 remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the  
99 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
100 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

101       **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
102 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
103 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
104 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
105 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
106 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
107 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
108 made without competitive bids.

109       **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
110 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
111 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
112 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
113 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
114 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
115 actions contrary to this provision.

116       **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
117 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
118 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon



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

122       **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
123 and after July 1, 2025.

