

By: Representatives Deweese, Read, Bennett,
Creekmore IV, Currie, McGee, Mickens, Scott,
Turner

To: Appropriations C;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1752

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 2026.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
7 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury
8 to the credit of the Real Estate Appraisal License Fund, for the
9 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Real Estate
10 Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board for the fiscal year
11 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....
12\$ 746,530.00.

13 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
14 Section 1, the following positions are authorized for the
15 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification
16 Board:

17 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

18 Permanent: 5

19 Time-Limited: 0



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

37 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
38 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
39 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
40 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do
41 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If
42 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the
43 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the



State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be essential for the agency.

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

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

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

SECTION 3. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2025. It is further the



intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

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

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for actions contrary to this provision.

SECTION 6. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal



93 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
94 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

95 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
96 and after July 1, 2025.

