

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, McCaughn,
Berry, Tate, Thompson

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3035

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF
2 ANIMAL HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 BOARD FOR 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 hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
8 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Board of Animal Health
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
10 June 30, 2026.....\$ 1,768,035.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special
13 source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available
14 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Board
15 of Animal Health, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and
16 ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 1,119,460.00.

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



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 23

21 Time-Limited: 5

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

39 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
40 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
41 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
42 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do
43 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If



the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the 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 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Board of Animal Health 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 5. 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 6. The Mississippi Board of Animal Health is authorized to accept and expend any grant, donation, or contribution from any individual, public or private organization, or government entity for purposes of defraying the operational costs of the department. Such grants, donations, contributions, and any carryover funds shall be received and expended under the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00).



93 **SECTION 7.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
94 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
95 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
96 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
97 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
98 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
99 actions contrary to this provision.

100 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds in Section 2 of this act, Two
101 Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) is provided from the
102 Animal Health Disaster Response Fund. These funds are provided
103 for expenses incurred by the Board of Animal Health in responding
104 to animal disease outbreaks as outlined in Section 69-15-21,
105 Mississippi Code of 1972.

106 **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
107 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
108 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
109 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
110 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
111 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

112 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
113 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after
114 June 30, 2025.

