

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Michel, Turner- Ford, Wiggins To: Appropriations

## SENATE BILL NO. 3041

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, INCLUDING  
3 THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION DIVISION, THE MOTOR VEHICLE COMPTROLLER  
4 FUNCTIONS, THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL DIVISION LIQUOR  
5 DISTRIBUTION CENTER, THE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, AND FOR THE PURPOSE  
6 OF REIMBURSING THE COUNTIES, COUNTY DISTRICTS AND MUNICIPAL  
7 SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR TAX LOSSES INCURRED BY REASON OF THE  
8 EXEMPTION OF HOMES FROM CERTAIN AD VALOREM TAXES, AND FOR THE  
9 PURPOSE OF PURCHASING MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS FOR FISCAL YEAR  
10 2026.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
13 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
14 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of  
15 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Department of Revenue,  
16 including the Homestead Exemption Division, the Motor Vehicle  
17 Comptroller functions, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division  
18 Liquor Distribution Center, and The Enforcement Division for the  
19 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
20 .....\$ 55,781,065.00.

21 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
22 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the special



23 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi  
24 Department of Revenue which are collected by or otherwise become  
25 available for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the  
26 department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
27 June 30, 2026.....\$ 22,273,329.00.

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

30 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

31 Permanent: 612

32 Time-Limited: 0

33 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
34 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
35 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
36 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
37 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
38 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
39 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
40 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
41 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
42 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
43 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
44 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
45 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
46 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
47 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee



salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
Mississippi State Personnel Board.

Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
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 shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Revenue, and he is hereby empowered to select in the manner provided by Section 27-3-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, such employees as may be necessary to the administration of all acts relating to the exemption of homesteads and the reimbursement of tax losses to the several taxing units of the state, and to assign them to the use of the Mississippi Department of Revenue.

**SECTION 5.** The money herein appropriated may be used for any expenses which the commission may legally incur. Provided, however, that no part of the money herein appropriated shall be used for the payment of attorney's fees, except upon recommendation of the Governor with the approval of the Attorney General, nor shall any of said funds be used either directly or indirectly for the purpose of paying any clerk, stenographer, assistant, deputy or other employee who may be related by blood or marriage within the third degree, computed by the rule of civil law, to the official employing or having the right of employment or selection thereof, except that when the relationship is by affinity and the person is dead through whom the relationship was established, this rule shall not apply. In the event of any such



97 payment, then the official or person approving and making such  
98 payment shall be liable to return to the State of Mississippi and  
99 to pay into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund  
100 three (3) times any such amount so paid to be recovered at suit by  
101 the Attorney General.

102       **SECTION 6.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
103 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
104 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
105 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
106 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
107 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
108 performance measures provided below:

109		FY2026
110	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
111	Tax Administration	
112	Cost per Unit of Work (Item/Case/Call)	17.70
113	Cost per Call Center Call Answered	5.76
114	Audit	
115	Cost per Audit	1,730.26
116	Tax Production per Audit	10,000
117	Tax Enforcement	
118	Cost per Dollar Collected in Recovery	
119	Actions	0.05
120	General Administration	
121	Average Cost per Return Processed	5.63



122	ROI - Revenue Collected per Dollar of	
123	Expense	137.99
124	Property & Motor Vehicle Services	
125	Cost per Homestead Exemption Application	3.71
126	Cost per Title Issued	2.95
127	Abc Liquor Distribution Center	
128	Cost per Case Shipped	3.33
129	ROI - GF Dollars Returned per Dollar of Cost	8.78
130	Enforcement	
131	Number of Permits-Alcohol	2,500
132	Number of Permits-Medical Cannabis	200
133	Number of Violations-Medical Cannabis	130
134	Average Number of Days to Issue	
135	Permit-Alcohol	15
136	Average Number of Days to Issue	
137	Permit-Medical Cannabis	20
138	Enforcement and Permitting Cost-Alcohol	1,113.39
139	Enforcement and Permitting Cost-Medical	
140	Cannabis	6,500.00
141	Percent Of Medical Cannabis Permits	
142	Receiving Administrative Action	5.00
143	Percent of Medical Cannabis Permits	
144	Receiving Criminal Action	5.00
145	Percent of Medical Cannabis Permits	
146	Inspected	100.00



Percent of Permit Applications

Approved-Medical Cannabis 90.00

A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.

**SECTION 7.** In addition to all other sums herein appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Mississippi Department of Revenue for the purpose of reimbursing the counties of the state, the road districts and school districts therein and the municipal separate school districts, for tax losses incurred by reason of the exemption of homes from certain ad valorem taxes under the provisions of Section 27-33-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 94,000,000.00.

**SECTION 8.** Each county, road district, school district and municipal separate school district which has incurred a tax loss that is reimbursable under Section 7 of this act shall be reimbursed a sum which is equivalent to the amount of tax loss produced by the application of tax rates annually fixed for maintenance and current expenses to the assessed value of homes, or so much thereof as has been lawfully authorized under the provisions of Section 27-33-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.



172       The disbursements from the funds appropriated under the  
173 provisions of Section 7 of this act shall be based upon the  
174 certificates required of the clerks of the county boards of  
175 supervisors and of the clerks of the municipalities, which  
176 certificates shall conform strictly in every respect to the  
177 requirements of the provisions of Section 27-33-1 et seq.,  
178 Mississippi Code of 1972.

179       All disbursements from the funds appropriated under the  
180 provisions of Section 7 of this act shall be made strictly in  
181 accordance with the provisions of Section 27-33-1 et seq.,  
182 Mississippi Code of 1972, and no disbursements other than those  
183 clearly authorized by those sections shall be made, the provisions  
184 of any other law to the contrary notwithstanding.

185       **SECTION 9.** None of the funds appropriated under the  
186 provisions of Section 7 of this act may be distributed to any  
187 county, municipality, school district or other taxing district in  
188 which the assessed valuation of the taxing district has increased  
189 as a result of reappraisal of the property of the taxing district  
190 unless the governing board of the taxing district has published a  
191 notice in a newspaper having a general circulation in the taxing  
192 district, stating the lower millage rate that would produce the  
193 same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxation on property of the  
194 taxing district that was produced in the fiscal year before the  
195 property of the taxing district was reappraised.





196           **SECTION 10.** In addition to all other sums herein

197 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be

198 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State

199 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Department of Revenue -

200 License Tag Commission from any other special source funds made

201 available to the License Tag Commission, for the fiscal year

202 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....

203 .....\$           6,000,000.00.

204           **SECTION 11.** None of the funds appropriated in Section 10 of

205 this act shall be expended to purchase motor vehicle license tags

206 made or manufactured by any department, agency or instrumentality

207 of a state other than the State of Mississippi. None of the funds

208 appropriated in this section shall be used for the purchase of

209 bolts, nuts or other fastening devices for attaching said motor

210 vehicle license tags. Provided further, that all motor vehicles

211 belonging to any state department, agency, commission, institution

212 or any other division of state government shall have license tags

213 which shall bear the words "Government" at the bottom of such

214 license tags.

215           **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that

216 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the

217 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things

218 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,

219 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind

220 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 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Department of Revenue 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 14.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the intention of the Legislature that up to Eight Hundred Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Dollars (\$811,740.00) shall be allocated as follows: to the Municipal Court Collections Program Four Hundred Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$405,870.00) and to the Justice Court Collections Program Four Hundred Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$405,870.00) to be supported from General Fund court assessments.

**SECTION 15.** 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 16.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Department of Revenue for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of Capital Expense Funds, to defray the expenses of the Department of Revenue, as authorized in SB 3047, 2024 Regular Session for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
.....\$ 1,279,971.00.

This appropriation is made for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of funds as allocated herein:

(a) IT Infrastructure, Facility Repairs, and Equipment.....  
.....\$ 362,000.00.

(b) Provisions pursuant to Section 67-1-205(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, related to contracting with a third-party entity to operate the Alcohol Beverage Control Liquor Distribution Center  
.....\$ 653,000.00.

(c) Computer hardware and Equipment.....\$ 119,971.00.

(d) Data storage and Firewall Protection...\$ 145,000.00.

Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section, the amount that may be expended under the authority of this section, shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the



previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

**SECTION 17.** With the funds herein appropriated, the Mississippi Department of Revenue is authorized to make payments for expenses incurred during prior fiscal years for an amount not to exceed One Hundred Twenty-nine Dollars (\$129.00).

**SECTION 18.** 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 Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

**SECTION 19.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after June 30, 2025.

