

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Blackwell,
McLendon, Simmons (13th)

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3051

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** The following sum of money, or so much thereof as
5 may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the
6 State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to defray the
7 expenses of the Mississippi Development Authority for the fiscal
8 year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....
9\$ 20,903,568.00.

10 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
11 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
12 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Development Authority or
13 the appropriate special fund for the purpose of defraying the
14 expenses incurred in the operation of the various divisions of the
15 authority for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
16 June 30, 2026.....\$ 299,561,213.00.

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



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 154

21 Time-Limited: 36

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. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the



69 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
70 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
71 performance measures provided below:

72		FY2026
73	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
74	Economic Dev & Incentives	
75	Number of National Recruitment Contacts	1,000
76	Number of International Investment Contracts	1,500
77	Number of International Trade Contacts	1,500
78	Number of Qualified National Prospects	225
79	Return on Investment	10.00
80	Number of New Businesses - Global Contacts	15
81	Number of New Jobs from Global Contacts	3,000
82	Number of Minority and Small Business	
83	Contacts	8,000
84	Number of Minority Business	
85	Certification Applications Processed	250
86	Technical Assistance to Disadvantaged	
87	Contacts	3,000
88	State Contracting with Minority Business	55,000,000
89	Number of Interactions with Interested	
90	Businesses	3,000
91	Number of Qualified Contacts	750
92	Number of Expansions	30
93	Number of Jobs Created from Expansions	3,000



94	Number of Energy Efficiency and	
95	Renewable Energy Direct Contacts	10,000
96	Community Dev & Incentives	
97	Number of Requests for Financing or	
98	Incentives	225
99	Awarded Grants and Loans for Community	
100	and Economic Development	50,000,000
101	Number of Grants and Loans Awarded	100
102	Support Services Program	
103	Administration as a Percent of Total Budget	9.50
104	Tourism (visit Ms)	
105	Number of Tourist Inquiries Generated	40,000
106	Number of Visitors per Year	30,000,000
107	Travel Revenue (\$ in Billions)	7.50
108	Number of Tourists Registered	2,842,273
109	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets	
110	set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	
111	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
112	Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.	

113 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
114 act, the amount of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00)
115 shall be provided from the Mississippi Department of
116 Transportation to defray the expenses of the Mississippi
117 Development Authority in operating the state welcome centers.



118 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
119 Mississippi Development Authority shall maintain complete
120 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
121 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
122 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
123 Year 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
124 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be
125 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
126 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
127 provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

128 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Sections 1 and 2 of
129 this act, the amount of Four Million Eight Hundred Seventy-six
130 Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-eight Dollars (\$4,876,298.00), or so
131 much thereof as may be necessary, is provided for the purpose of
132 supporting Mississippi Tourism Advertising and Promotion for
133 Fiscal Year 2026, and shall not be expended for any type of
134 cultural exchange program. Of the funds appropriated herein and
135 allocated within this section, Two Hundred Ninety-nine Thousand
136 Dollars (\$299,000.00) is provided for Tourism Grant Development
137 Awards.

138 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that none
139 of the funds appropriated above shall be expended unless members
140 of the Mississippi House of Representatives and Mississippi Senate
141 are notified at least five (5) days prior to a public ceremony
142 announcing the award of any grant in their district or any public



143 announcement or ceremony regarding the groundbreaking or opening
144 of a facility, roadway or bridge for which the Legislature has
145 made funds available. Any signage regarding any public event or
146 any new facility, roadway or bridge shall include the following
147 language: "Funds were made available for this project by the
148 Mississippi State Legislature."

149 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
150 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
151 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
152 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
153 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
154 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
155 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
156 made without competitive bids.

157 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
158 act, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) is provided for
159 the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Areas.

160 **SECTION 11.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
161 act, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) is provided for
162 the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area.

163 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
164 Mississippi Development Authority is hereby authorized to
165 escalate, budget, and expend funds from any source not to exceed
166 Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) in accordance with rules and



167 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a
168 manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

169 **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
170 Mississippi Development Authority shall submit a notification of
171 any General Fund Transfers out of the major category Subsidies
172 into any other major categories to the Legislative Budget Office.

173 **SECTION 14.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
174 act, Twenty Thousand Twenty-five Dollars (\$20,025.00) shall be
175 provided for the support of the Mississippi River Parkway
176 Commission.

177 **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
178 act, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be transferred to
179 Innovate Mississippi.

180 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
181 act, One Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Dollars (\$156,000.00) is
182 provided for the Energy High School Academy, established in
183 Section 37-69-7, Mississippi Code of 1972.

184 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
185 act, it is the intention of the Legislature that Fifty Thousand
186 Dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be allocated to the Mississippi Book
187 Festival.

188 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Five Hundred
189 Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) shall be provided to the
190 Mississippi Main Street Association for statewide support and
191 operations.



SECTION 19.

It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Development Authority shall provide quarterly reports on the status of Gulf Coast Restoration Fund projects to the Legislative Budget Office and the Department of Finance and Administration. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Development Authority shall provide the Joint Legislative Budget Committee a detailed report and other such related information on each project's expenditures with the subsequent fiscal year's budget submission.

SECTION 20.

The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund not otherwise appropriated to the Mississippi Development Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of Gulf Coast Restoration Fund, as provided in Senate Bill No. 3056, 2024 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 743,478.00.

These funds are provided for administrative expenses at the Mississippi Development Authority as outlined in Section 57-119-7, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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 21. 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 Mississippi Development Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of Capital Expense Funds for the Air Service Development Act, as authorized in Senate Bill No. 3056, 2024 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 246,431.00.

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 22. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Development Authority may provide operational support to any park operated by the United States National Park Service in Mississippi during the event of a government shutdown that materially affects the operations of such park.

SECTION 23. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this act, the following sums, or so much thereof as may be necessary is appropriated out of the following funds in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Development Authority for the purpose of Mississippi Major Economic Impact Projects for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026:



(a) Triple Crown Fund for the purposes described in Section 57-1-651, Mississippi Code of 1972.....\$ 25,162,916.00.

(b) Project Poppy Fund for the purposes described in Section 57-1-631, Mississippi Code of 1972,.....\$ 75,918,875.00.

(c) Project Atlas Fund for the purposes described in Section 57-1-641, Mississippi Code of 1972.....\$ 42,680,387.00.

It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Development Authority provide the reporting requirements of each fund appropriated in this section on or before January 5 of each year.

SECTION 24. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Three Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Dollars (\$356,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Project Poppy Fund, as created in Section 57-1-631, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office and One Million Six-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Project Atlas Fund, as created in Section 57-1-641, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided for expediting services needed for Project Poppy and Project Atlas.

SECTION 25. In addition to all other funds appropriated herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,



267 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund
268 not otherwise appropriated, to the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
269 Development Authority for the purposes enumerated in Section
270 51-27-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the fiscal year beginning
271 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 252,069.00.

272 **SECTION 26.** In addition to all other funds appropriated
273 herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,
274 is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special source
275 funds which are collected by or otherwise become available for the
276 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Tennessee-Tombigbee
277 Waterway Development Authority for the fiscal year beginning
278 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 313,300.00.

279 **SECTION 27.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
280 of Sections 25 and 26 of this act, the following positions are
281 authorized:

282 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

283 Permanent: 3

284 Time-Limited: 0

285 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
286 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law.

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



291 **SECTION 28.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
292 of Section 2, Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000.00), or so much
293 thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury
294 to the credit of the Mississippi Site Development Grant Fund, as
295 created in Section 57-1-701, Mississippi Code of 1972, and
296 allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office.
297 These funds are provided to defray expenses for Mississippi Site
298 Development Grants.

299 **SECTION 29.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
300 of Section 2, Six Million Nine Hundred Seventy-two Dollars
301 (\$6,972,000.00), or so much thereof, shall be derived out of any
302 money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Main
303 Street Revitalization Grant Program Fund and allocated in a manner
304 as determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided
305 for Mississippi Main Street Revitalization Grants pursuant to
306 Section 57-78-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended by Senate
307 Bill 2696, Regular Session 2024. The Mississippi Development
308 Authority shall provide the funds to approved grantees in the
309 letter of award recipients from the Mississippi Main Street
310 Association to the Legislature dated November 21, 2023.

311 **SECTION 30.** With the funds appropriated herein, the
312 Mississippi Development Authority is authorized to make payments
313 for expenses incurred during prior fiscal years for an amount not
314 to exceed Fifty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-six Dollars and
315 Eighty-seven Cents (\$50,496.87).



316 **SECTION 31.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
317 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
318 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
319 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
320 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
321 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

322 **SECTION 32.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
323 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after
324 June 30, 2025.

