

By: Senator(s) Thompson

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3055

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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, for the purpose of
7 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Department of Tourism
8 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
9 June 30, 2026.....\$ 0.00.

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 Department of Tourism or
13 the appropriate special fund for the purpose of defraying the
14 expenses of the department, for the fiscal year beginning
15 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 0.00.

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

18 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:



19 Permanent: 0

20 Time-Limited: 0

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

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



44 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the
45 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
46 essential for the agency.

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

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

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

64 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
65 Mississippi Department of Tourism shall maintain complete
66 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
67 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
68 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal



69 Year 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
70 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be
71 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
72 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
73 provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

74 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
75 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
76 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
77 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
78 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
79 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
80 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
81 made without competitive bids.

82 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
83 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
84 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
85 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
86 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
87 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
88 actions contrary to this provision.

89 **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
90 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
91 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
92 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 8.** This act shall be contingent upon the passage of
96 Senate Bill 2573, 2025 Regular Session, which creates the
97 Mississippi Department of Tourism, and shall take effect and be in
98 force from and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from
99 and after June 30, 2025

