

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**Senate Bill No. 3042**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

**SECTION 1.** 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, for the support and  
maintenance of the Secretary of State for the fiscal year  
beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
.....\$ 16,924,899.00.

**SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special  
source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available  
for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Secretary of



State for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
June 30, 2026.....\$ 16,690,305.00.

**SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

Permanent: 95

Time-Limited: 11

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



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 Office of the Secretary of State 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.** None of the funds appropriated by this act shall be expended for any purpose that is not actually required or necessary for performing any of the powers or duties of the Office of the Secretary of State that are authorized by the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, state or federal law, or rules or regulations that implement state or federal law.

**SECTION 6.** No part of the funds appropriated herein shall be used, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of paying any clerk, stenographer, assistant, deputy, or other person who may be related by blood or marriage within the third degree, computed by the rules of the civil law, to the official employing or having the right of employment or selection thereof; and in the event of any such payment, then the official or person approving and making



87 or receiving such payment shall be jointly and severally liable to  
88 return to the State of Mississippi and to pay into the State  
89 Treasury three (3) times any such amount so paid or received, to  
90 be recovered at suit of the Attorney General; provided that when  
91 the relationship is by affinity and the person through whom the  
92 relationship was established is dead, this provision shall not  
93 apply.

94       **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
95 act, the Secretary of State may use funds appropriated for the  
96 purposes of defraying litigation expenses associated with the  
97 enforcement of the Mississippi Securities Act, the Regulation of  
98 Charitable Solicitations Act, and the administration of the Public  
99 Trust.

100       **SECTION 8.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
101 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
102 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
103 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
104 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
105 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
106 performance measures provided below:

	FY2026
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
Business Services	
Percent of Business Services Customer	
Phone Calls Answered	95.00



112	Elections	
113	Number of Poll Workers to Successfully	
114	Complete the Online Training Program	650
115	Number of Voter Registrations Updated on	
116	Secure Online Website	6,400
117	Percent of Poll Workers who Successfully	
118	Complete the Online Poll Manager	
119	Training on Their First Attempt	60.00
120	Publications	
121	Number of Visits to the Secretary of	
122	State's Website	9,000,000
123	Public Lands	
124	Number of Tax-Forfeited Properties Sold	1,000
125	Support Services	
126	Support Services as a Percent of Total	
127	Agency Expenditures	25.00
128	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets	
129	set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	
130	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
131	Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.	
132	<b>SECTION 9.</b> Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this	
133	act, no more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is	
134	provided for paying principal and interest on bond issues for	
135	county voting systems.	



136       **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
137 act, One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
138 (\$1,750,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is  
139 appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit  
140 of the Land Records Maintenance Fund, for the purpose of making  
141 distributions to local governments for taxes owed during the  
142 fiscal year.

143       **SECTION 11.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
144 act, Four Million Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred  
145 Ninety-three Dollars (\$4,215,393.00), or so much thereof as may be  
146 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury  
147 to the credit of the Elections Support Fund, for the purpose of  
148 acquiring, upgrading, maintaining, or repairing voting equipment,  
149 systems, and supplies, hiring temporary technical support,  
150 conducting elections using such voting equipment or systems and  
151 training election officials during the fiscal year.

152       **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
153 act, Eleven Million Dollars (\$11,000,000.00), or so much thereof  
154 as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State  
155 Treasury to the credit of the Public Trust Tidelands Fund, and is  
156 authorized to be transferred by the Secretary of State to the  
157 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

158       **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
159 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
160 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things



161 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
162 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
163 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
164 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
165 made without competitive bids.

166       **SECTION 14.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
167 act, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is for the purpose of  
168 expenses related to cybersecurity and election integrity.

169       **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Six  
170 Million Two Hundred Ninety-nine Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty-two  
171 Dollars (\$6,299,732.00) is provided for defraying expenses related  
172 to the Broadwater Marina Restoration Project.

173       **SECTION 16.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
174 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
175 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
176 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
177 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
178 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

179       **SECTION 17.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
180 and after July 1, 2025.

