

## Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1743

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

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

5       **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the  
8 expenses of the State Fire Academy for the fiscal year beginning  
9 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$       6,854,812.00.

10       **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
11 Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

12       AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

13       Permanent:               62

14       Time-Limited:           0

15       With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
16 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
17 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
18 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
19 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
20 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
21 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board

22 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
23 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
24 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
25 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
26 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
27 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
28 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
29 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
30 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
31 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

32 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
33 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
34 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
35 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
36 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
37 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
38 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
39 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
40 essential for the agency.

41 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
42 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
43 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
44 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
45 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
46 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
47 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 3.** 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 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized, this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted performance measures provided below:

	FY2026
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
Training	
Number of Students Trained	8,100
Average Cost per Student Trained	1,151.60

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.

74           **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
75 State Fire Academy shall maintain complete accounting and  
76 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
77 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the  
78 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
79 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
80 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to  
81 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of  
82 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided  
83 during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

84           **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
85 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
86 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
87 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
88 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
89 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
90 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
91 made without competitive bids.

92           **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
93 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
94 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
95 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
96 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
97 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
98 actions contrary to this provision.

99           **SECTION 7.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
100 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital  
101 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the State Fire  
102 Academy for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of  
103 Capital Expense Funds as authorized in House Bill 1798, 2024  
104 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and  
105 ending June 30, 2026.....\$       1,825,000.00.

106           This re-appropriation is made for the purpose of reauthorizing  
107 the expenditure of funds as allocated herein:

108           a) Federal Grant Match to Purchase Vehicles..\$       75,000.00.

109           b) Replacement of Heat Building Components...\$   1,750,000.00.

110           Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
111 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
112 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
113 remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the  
114 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
115 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

116           **SECTION 8.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
117 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
118 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
119 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
120 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
121 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

122           **SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
123 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
124 June 30, 2025.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1           AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM GENERAL FUND IN THE STATE  
2   TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE  
3   FIRE ACADEMY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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Amanda White  
Secretary of the Senate