

## Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1762

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:

7       **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
8 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury  
9 to the credit of the Administrative Expense Account of the Public  
10 Employees' Retirement System for the purpose of defraying the  
11 administrative expenses of the Board of Trustees of the Public  
12 Employees' Retirement System, or out of any money in the State  
13 Treasury to the credit of the Retirement System Building Account  
14 of the Public Employees' Retirement System for the purpose of  
15 maintenance and general operation of the Retirement System  
16 Building, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
17 June 30, 2026.....\$       21,052,911.00.

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

20       AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

21       Permanent:                   167

22       Time-Limited:                0

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

40           Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
41 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
42 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
43 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
44 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
45 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
46 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
47 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
48 essential for the agency.

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

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

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

66 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
67 Board of Trustees of the Public Employees' Retirement System shall  
68 maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the  
69 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such  
70 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as  
71 maintained for Fiscal Year 2025. It is further the intention of  
72 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year  
73 2027 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
74 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 4.** In accordance with the purposes of this article, there shall be established in the State Treasury the Public Employees' Retirement System Building Repair and Maintenance Fund, into which shall be deposited all funds collected as rental income from the building owned by the system located at 301 North President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. At the end of each fiscal year, any and all unexpended funds shall be transferred to the Administrative Budget Fund of the system.

**SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price, quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind 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 6.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, no more than Three Million Five Hundred Thirty-eight Thousand Dollars (\$3,538,000.00) is provided for the purpose of defraying those expenses associated with maintaining, upgrading and operating the computer system.

**SECTION 7.** As a condition of expending the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act, the Board of Trustees of the Public Employees' Retirement System shall live webcast and

record all board and committee meetings, excluding any executive sessions of the board under the provision of the Mississippi Open Meetings Act. Archived footage or a weblink to the archived footage shall be posted on the agency website within Forty-eight (48) hours of the date and time the meeting was held.

**SECTION 8.** The Public Employees' Retirement System is further authorized, in its discretion, to expend funds for the purchase of service pins for employees of the Public Employees' Retirement System.

**SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, no more than Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) is provided, only for the explicit purpose of building maintenance and repair.

**SECTION 10.** 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 11.** 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 State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

126           **SECTION 12.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
127 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
128 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 SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE  
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
3 EXPENSES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'  
4 RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE  
5 RETIREMENT SYSTEM BUILDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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Amanda White  
Secretary of the Senate