

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1741**

**BY: Committee**

**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 Department of Health for the fiscal year  
9 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
10 .....\$       63,044,692.00.

11       **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in  
13 the State Treasury to the credit of the State Department of Health  
14 which is comprised of special source funds collected by or



15 otherwise available to the department, for the purpose of  
16 defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal year  
17 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
18 .....\$ 535,067,928.00.

19 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
20 Sections 1 and 2, Seven Million Twenty-six Thousand One Hundred  
21 Two Dollars (\$7,026,102.00) shall be derived from the State  
22 General Fund and Eleven Million Three Hundred Twenty-eight  
23 Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty-three Dollars (\$11,328,783.00) shall  
24 be derived from the Health Care Expendable Fund, created in  
25 Section 43-13-407, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the support and  
26 maintenance of the State Department of Health. The funds provided  
27 in this section shall be allocated as follows:

28	Magnet Community Health Disparity Program....\$	2,000,000.00
29	Early Intervention Program for	
30	increased reimbursements.....\$	2,000,000.00
31	Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.....\$	100,000.00
32	Maternal and Child Health Care Program.....\$	1,242,943.00
33	Mississippi Health Care Alliance for the ST	
34	Elevated Myocardial Infarction Program	
35	(STEMI), Sepsis, and the Stroke System	
36	of Care Plan.....\$	250,000.00
37	Health Department Programs.....\$	12,761,942.00

38 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in this act,  
39 Thirty-four Million Dollars (\$34,000,000.00) is allocated to the



Trauma Care System. Of the General Fund court assessments provided in Section 1, Thirteen Million Twenty-three Thousand One Hundred Ninety-seven Dollars (\$13,023,197.00) shall be allocated for Trauma Care Systems and One Million Eight Hundred Five Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-nine Dollars (\$1,805,859.00) shall be allocated for Emergency Medical Services. All additional funds are appropriated in Section 2. The State Department of Health may transfer a portion of Trauma Care System funds to the Division of Medicaid for the development and implementation of an enhanced reimbursement fee program related to trauma care and services, used to match federal funds, under a cooperative agreement between the State Department of Health and the Division of Medicaid.

It is the intention of the Legislature that none of the funds authorized herein for the Trauma Care System shall be expended to the benefit of any hospital located outside the boundaries of the State of Mississippi, unless otherwise excepted in this paragraph. Funds shall be expended by the Mississippi Department of Health for distribution to the Regional Medical Center or Le Bonheur Children's Hospital at Memphis, located in Memphis, Tennessee, or the University of South Alabama Medical Center located in Mobile, Alabama, or the Joseph M. Still Burn Centers, Inc., located in Augusta, Georgia, or any affiliates or any other Level 1 Trauma Center, or Tertiary Pediatric Trauma Center that participates in the Mississippi Trauma Care System, as determined by the Mississippi Department of Health.



**SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) shall be derived from the Tobacco Control Program Fund, created in Section 41-113-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, and shall be allocated as follows:

University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer

Institute.....\$ 4,250,000.00

Department of Education - Mary Kirkpatrick Haskell -

Mary Sprayberry Public School

Nurse Program.....\$ 3,060,000.00

Attorney General's Office - Alcohol and

Tobacco Enforcement Unit.....\$ 680,000.00

University of Mississippi Medical Center -

A Comprehensive Tobacco (ACT)

Center.....\$ 595,000.00

Mississippi Health Care Alliance - ST Elevated

Myocardial Infarction Program (STEMI),

Sepsis, and Stroke System of Care Plan....\$ 595,000.00

Mississippi Qualified Health

Center Grant Program.....\$ 3,400,000.00

Mississippi Health Department Programs.....\$ 7,420,000.00

Of the funds appropriated in this section, the State Department of Health is authorized to expend funds to create and administer the Office of Tobacco Control within the department as outlined and created in Section 41-113-3, Mississippi Code of 1972.



**SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, One Million One Hundred Two Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$1,102,915.00) shall be allocated as follows:

Mississippi Health Care Alliance - ST Elevated Myocardial Infarction Program (STEMI), Sepsis, and Stroke System of Care Plan.....	\$ 279,400.00
Mississippi Qualified Health Center Grant Program.....	\$ 600,000.00
Mississippi Health Department Programs.....	\$ 223,515.00

**SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of this act, the following positions are authorized:

**AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:**

Permanent:	685
Time-Limited:	1,407

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.

Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do 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.



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

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

147 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
148 State Department of Health shall maintain complete accounting and  
149 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
150 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the  
151 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
152 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
153 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to  
154 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of  
155 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided  
156 during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

157 **SECTION 9.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
158 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
159 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
160 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
161 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
162 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
163 performance measures provided below:



164		FY2026
165	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
166	Health Services	
167	State Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000	
168	Live Births)	8.80
169	Percent of Women who Received Prenatal	
170	Care in First Trimester	75.80
171	Percent of Live Births Delivered Prior	
172	to 37 Weeks of Gestation	15.50
173	Teenage Live Birth Rate Age 15-19 Years	
174	(per 1,000 Women Age 15-19)	22.20
175	Percent of Newborns with Positive and	
176	Inconclusive Genetic Screens who	
177	Received Recommended Follow-Up	100.00
178	Percent of Adults who are Obese (Body	
179	Mass Index of 30 or More, Regardless of	
180	Sex)	39.10
181	Health Protection	
182	Percent of Mississippi Population	
183	Receiving Water From a Public Water	
184	Supply	92.00
185	Percent of Mississippi Population	
186	Receiving Optimally Fluoridated Water	50.00
187	Transfer Time of Level III and IV Trauma	
188	Centers to Appropriate Facilities for	





189	Treatment (Minutes)	129.00
190	Communicable Disease	
191	Primary and Secondary Syphilis: Case	
192	Rate per 100,000	27.14
193	Tuberculosis: Number of Cases	40
194	Tuberculosis: Case Rate per 100,000	1.20
195	HIV Disease: Number of Cases	450
196	HIV Disease: Case Rate per 100,000	15.31
197	Rate of Two Year Old Children Fully	
198	Immunized (National Immunization Survey:	
199	4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series - 19 to 35 months)	74.00
200	Tobacco Control	
201	Percent of Current Smokers Among Public	
202	Middle School Students	1.50
203	Percent of Current Smokers Among Public	
204	High School Students	2.10
205	Percent of Current Smokers Among Adults	
206	18 Years and Older	17.20
207	Public Health Emerg Prep/resp	
208	Time Required for Command Staff to	
209	Report to Emergency Operations Center in	
210	Response to a National or Man-Made	
211	Disaster (Minutes)	30.00
212	Admin & Support Services	
213	Percent of Mississippi Population Living	



214	in an Area Designated as a Health	
215	Professional Shortage Area: Mental	
216	Health	74.00
217	Percent of Mississippi Population Living	
218	in an Area Designated as a Health	
219	Professional Shortage Area: Dental	47.00
220	Percent of Mississippi Population Living	
221	in an Area Designated as a Health	
222	Professional Shortage Area: Primary	
223	Care	50.00
224	Medical Cannabis	
225	Number of Conditions Added to the List	
226	of Debilitating Medical Conditions	2
227	Number of Qualifying Patients Approved	55,000
228	Number of Designated Caregivers Approved	190
229	Number of Registry Identification Cards	
230	Revoked	25
231	Total Number of Patients with a Registry	
232	Identification Card	50,000
233	Number of Licensed Medical Practitioners	350
234	Number of Licensed Cannabis Cultivation	
235	Facilities	120
236	Number of Licensed Cannabis Processing	
237	Facilities	35
238	Number of Licensed Cannabis Testing	



239	Facilities	4
240	Number of Licensed Cannabis Waste	
241	Disposal Entities	7
242	Number of Licensed Cannabis	
243	Transportation Entities	20
244	Percent of Applications Approved	95

245 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
246 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
247 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
248 Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.

249 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that with  
250 the funds provided herein, the State Department of Health may  
251 provide and administer without charge, Hepatitis B vaccinations to  
252 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel who are in need of such  
253 vaccinations through job related exposure.

254 **SECTION 11.** In addition to all other sums heretofore  
255 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
256 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
257 Fund not otherwise appropriated to the credit of the Local  
258 Governments and Rural Water Systems Emergency Loan Fund, and the  
259 Local Governments and Rural Water System Improvements Revolving  
260 Loan Fund as authorized in Chapter 521, Laws of 1995, to the State  
261 Department of Health for the purpose of defraying the expenses of  
262 the Local Governments and Rural Water Systems Improvements Board,



263 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
264 June 30, 2026.....\$ 4,300,000.00.

265 The purpose of these funds is to provide funds necessary to  
266 match projected federal funds available through the following  
267 federal fiscal year from the annual Clean Water State Revolving  
268 Fund (CWSRF) appropriations and from the supplemental  
269 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) appropriations.

270 **SECTION 12.** In addition to all other sums heretofore  
271 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
272 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury  
273 to the credit of the Local Governments and Rural Water Systems  
274 Emergency Loan Fund, and the Local Governments and Rural Water  
275 System Improvements Revolving Loan Fund as authorized in Chapter  
276 521, Laws of 1995, to the State Department of Health for the  
277 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Local Governments and  
278 Rural Water Systems Improvements Board, for the fiscal year  
279 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
280 .....\$ 175,050,130.00.

281 **SECTION 13.** Of the funds appropriated under Sections 11 and  
282 12 of this act, the following positions are authorized:

283 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

284 Permanent: 5  
285 Time-Limited: 8

286 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
287 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.

Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do 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 14.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall come from the Department of Human Services, Child Care Development Fund or other appropriate special funds for the purpose of child care licensure. These funds are to be transferred to the State Department of Health no later than July 31, 2025. The State Department of Health shall make a complete accounting of the uses of these funds to the Department of Human Services.



**SECTION 15.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the State Department of Health shall expend not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) of the funds appropriated herein for providing the oil known as "Lorenzo's Oil" for the treatment of the genetic disorder adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), to children and Mississippi residents over the age of twenty-one (21) who have the genetic disorder adrenoleukodystrophy and for whom Medicaid does not reimburse the cost of providing the oil. The department may also provide needed pathology and biannual MRI exams.

**SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) are provided for the purpose of purchasing AIDS drugs and other necessary AIDS related medical services.

**SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) is provided for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

**SECTION 18.** In addition to all other funds heretofore appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act at the Department of Health for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 7,787,845.00.

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



AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

Permanent: 0

Time-Limited: 34

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.

Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do 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 20.** In addition to all other funds heretofore appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Burn Care Fund which is comprised



of special source funds collected by or otherwise available to the department, for the purpose of funding reimbursement for uncompensated medical care to Mississippi burn victims through the trauma care system at in-state burn facilities including the Baptist Medical Center, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and any designated Burn Center associated with a Level I Trauma Center in the Mississippi Trauma Care System or for uncompensated aero medical transportation to out-of-state qualified United States Burn Care facilities, and such other provisions necessary to provide burn care for Mississippi residents, including reimbursement for travel, lodgings, meals and other reasonable travel-related expenses incurred by burn victims, family members and/or caregivers, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 5,000,000.00.

**SECTION 21.** 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 22.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Department of Health shall implement same day service to receive birth and death certificates.



437           **SECTION 23.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
438 Mississippi State Department of Health shall provide the Joint  
439 Legislative Budget Committee a report of all grants received by  
440 September 15, 2025. This notification will consist of the name of  
441 the grant and agency or nonprofit making the award, the award  
442 amount, and a short list of goals to be achieved.

443           **SECTION 24.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
444 Mississippi State Department of Health shall be the fiscal agent  
445 in all allowable grants awarded.

446           **SECTION 25.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Seven  
447 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall come from the  
448 Department of Education for the purpose of maintenance of effort  
449 for the Early Intervention Program. These funds are to be  
450 transferred to the State Department of Health no later than  
451 December 31, 2025. The State Department of Health shall make a  
452 complete accounting of the uses of these funds to the Department  
453 of Education.

454           **SECTION 26.** The Mississippi Department of Health is  
455 authorized to obtain a line of credit through the State Treasurer  
456 from the Working Cash-Stabilization Fund or any other special  
457 source funds maintained in the State Treasury in an amount not  
458 exceeding Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) to fund shortfalls  
459 which, from time to time, may occur due to insufficient working  
460 cash spent in anticipation of receiving federal reimbursement.  
461 The length of indebtedness under this provision shall not carry



past the end of the quarter following the loan origination. Loan proceeds shall be received by the State Treasurer and shall be placed in a Mississippi Department of Health designated special fund account. The division may pledge as security for such interim financing future funds that will be received by the division. Any such loans shall be repaid from the first available funds received by the department in the manner of and subject to the same terms provided in this section.

**SECTION 27.** 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 28.** With the funds appropriated herein, it is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Department of Health is authorized to set the compensation of all nurse PINs, Epidemiologists and Disease Intervention Specialist Series based on the education and experience of the incumbent not to exceed the end salary as established by the State Personnel Board.

**SECTION 29.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the Chairman of the Board of Health may appoint an official replacement or representative with voting privileges to the Advisory Board of the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce.



487           **SECTION 30.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
488 State Health Officer shall have the authority to transfer cash  
489 from one special fund treasury fund to another special fund  
490 treasury fund under the control of the Department of Health. It  
491 is further the intention of the Legislature that the State Health  
492 Officer shall submit written justification for the transfer to the  
493 Legislative Budget Office and the Department of Finance and  
494 Administration on or before the fifteenth of the month prior to  
495 the effective date of the transfer.

496           **SECTION 31.** Of the funds appropriated in Sections 1 and 2 of  
497 this act, One Million Three Hundred Eighty-two Thousand Two  
498 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,382,250.00) is provided for the Office  
499 of Mississippi Physician Workforce as described in Section  
500 41-123-5, Mississippi Code of 1972.

501           **SECTION 32.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is  
502 the intention of the Legislature that Eight Hundred Fifty-nine  
503 Thousand Nine Hundred Three Dollars (\$859,903.00) shall be  
504 allocated to the Domestic Violence program that is supported from  
505 General Fund court assessments.

506           **SECTION 33.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
507 Mississippi State Department of Health shall have authority to  
508 escalate the various budgets in both funds and positions, with the  
509 approval of the State Fiscal Officer, from any special funds  
510 collected or available for HIV medical or support services,  
511 clinical quality management, and administrative expenses not to



512 exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), to the agency for  
513 expenditure. Upon such approval, the Mississippi State Department  
514 of Health may expend such funds in the manner authorized by law.  
515 Funds may be made available to local HIV/AIDS service providers.

516 The Executive Director of the Mississippi State Department of  
517 Health shall submit to the Department of Finance and  
518 Administration a certified statement providing a detailed  
519 explanation for any escalation, including a justification for the  
520 establishment of any new positions or reclassification of existing  
521 positions.

522 **SECTION 34.** Notwithstanding any other provision, the  
523 Department of Health shall have the authority to escalate its  
524 headcount for any additional operational needs related to  
525 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds, upon approval of the  
526 Department of Finance and Administration and the State Personnel  
527 Board.

528 **SECTION 35.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
529 State Department of Health is hereby authorized to escalate,  
530 budget and expend funds for salaries and positions, with the  
531 approval of the State Fiscal Officer, from fund numbers  
532 5331400000, 5331500000, and 5820130100, for the purpose of  
533 operating the State Department of Health programs as authorized by  
534 law, in accordance with rules and regulation of the Department of  
535 Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the  
536 escalation of federal funds and when grant requirements have



537 changed that result in staffing needs but do not result in new or  
538 additional funds.

539       The Executive Director of the State Department of Health or  
540 designee shall submit to the Department of Finance and  
541 Administration a certified statement providing a detailed  
542 explanation for any escalation, including a justification for the  
543 establishment of any new positions or reclassification of existing  
544 positions.

545       **SECTION 36.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, Twelve  
546 Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$12,300,000.00) is  
547 allocated for the purpose of providing reimbursable grants from  
548 the Office of Interpersonal Violence as described in this section.

549       The funds appropriated under this section shall be expended  
550 by the State Department of Health as a reimbursable grant. In  
551 determining reimbursable expenses, the State Department of Health  
552 shall use allowable costs as defined by the Office of  
553 Interpersonal Violence. Of the funds in this section, a minimum  
554 of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is to be distributed to  
555 Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi for the purpose of  
556 conducting additional forensic interviews. Of the funds in this  
557 section, up to Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) may be  
558 used by the department for administration of these funds.

559       **SECTION 37.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
560 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
561 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon



562 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
563 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
564 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

565       **SECTION 38.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
566 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
567 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 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING  
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
3 2026.

