

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1769**

**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 Mississippi Authority for Educational Television  
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
10 June 30, 2026.....\$       4,547,938.00.

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



collected by or otherwise available to the Authority, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Authority for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 6,353,694.00.

**SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 1 and Section 2, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

Permanent: 78

Time-Limited: 7

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



39 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
40 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

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

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

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62 withdrawn and no longer available.



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

67       **SECTION 4.** Funds appropriated herein shall first be used for  
68 the continuation of a full and complete broadcast schedule of  
69 educational and instructional, professional growth, and public  
70 service programs, with the production of new films and programs to  
71 be secondary thereto.

72       **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
73 Mississippi Authority for Educational Television shall maintain  
74 complete accounting and personnel records related to the  
75 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such  
76 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as  
77 maintained for Fiscal Year 2025. It is further the intention of  
78 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year  
79 2027 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
80 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level  
81 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request  
82 process.

83       **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
84 Section 2, Two Million One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Nine Hundred  
85 Sixty-six Dollars (\$2,118,966.00) shall be derived from the  
86 Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75  
87 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.



**SECTION 7.** No part of the funds appropriated herein shall be transferred to, expended by, or used, directly or indirectly, for the benefit of any public relations, publicity or publication activities of any other state agency, department or officer, nor shall any personnel paid or equipment purchased with funds appropriated hereby be transferred or assigned to any other state agency, department or officer for public relations, publicity or publication activities of such office.

**SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television shall have the authority to expend funds in the Capital Equipment Replacement Revolving Fund, in accordance with Section 37-63-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the purpose of purchasing technical equipment for operating the educational radio and television facilities.

**SECTION 9.** 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>
Content Operations	
Number of Locally Produced TV Programs	100



113	Number of Locally Produced Radio Programs	1,092
114	Number of Monthly Average Number of Web	
115	Site Users	25,000
116	Percent of Radio Broadcasts and TV	
117	Alerts During Times of Emergency	100.00
118	Education Services	
119	Percent Increase in Users Using MPB	
120	Education Online Resources for Pre-K	
121	Children and Families	15.00
122	Number of Students Served by the Digital	
123	Education Network (DEN) Classroom	2,000
124	Number of School Districts Participating	
125	in the DEN Classroom	30
126	Number of Teachers Taking e-Learning Courses	1,300
127	Number of Teacher Continuing Education	
128	Units (CEUs) Provided by e-Learning	
129	Courses Offered	3,500
130	Percent Increase of Visitors to the MPB	
131	Education Website	20.00
132	Number of Early Childhood Educators	
133	Attending MPB Resource Workshops	
134	Involving PBS and MPB Programs/Content	250
135	Technical Services	
136	Number of Transmitters On Air	8
137	On-Air Reliability	99.95



138	Number of IT Help Desk Orders Filled	835
139	Administration	
140	Number of Community Engagements/Outreach	
141	Events Including Virtual Engagements	100
142	Number of State Agency Partners	40
143	New Grant Dollars Acquired	75,000.00

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

148 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
149 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
150 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
151 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
152 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
153 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
154 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
155 made without competitive bids.

156 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that an  
157 amount equal to One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) per square foot  
158 shall be paid to the Executive Office of the State Board of  
159 Institutions of Higher Learning to defray utility costs.

160 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
161 Authority for Educational Television may fund a program to focus  
162 on the manufacturing industry in Mississippi.



**SECTION 13.** Mississippi Authority for Educational Television is authorized to accept and expend any grant, donation, or contribution from any individual, public, or private organization, or government entity for purposes of defraying the operational costs of the department. Such grants, donations or contributions shall be received and expended under the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

**SECTION 14.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Educational Television Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of Education Enhancement Funds as authorized in House Bill No. 1824, 2024 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 899,202.00.

This reappropriation is made for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of funds as allocated herein:

- a) Tower maintenance and upgrades.....\$ 175,394.00.
- b) Digitalization of Educational Content and Mississippi History.....\$ 522,968.00.
- c) Production of a Medgar Evers documentary.....\$ 200,840.00.

Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section, the amount that may be expended under the authority of this





188 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
189 remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the  
190 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
191 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

192       **SECTION 15.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
193 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
194 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
195 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
196 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
197 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

198       **SECTION 16.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
199 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
200 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 MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL  
3 TELEVISION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

