By: Representatives Oliver, To: Appropriations A Arnold, Boyd (19th), Hines, Mangold, Massengill, Read, Roberson, Scoggin, Scott

## HOUSE BILL NO. 44

1 2 3	AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.
4	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
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 support and maintenance
8	of the Mississippi Library Commission and for carrying out the
9	provisions of Section 39-3-107, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the
10	fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026
11	\$ 11,160,252.00.
12	SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
13	necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
14	the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Library
15	Commission which is comprised of special source funds collected by
16	or otherwise available to the commission, for the purpose of
17	defraying the expenses of the commission for the fiscal year
18	beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026

19	\$ 4,863,451.00.			
20	SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of			
21	this act, not more than the following amount of funds, with the			
22	exception of the provisions in this section, shall be expended			
23	only for "Personal Services," which includes "Vacancy Funding,"			
24	for the following authorized number of employment headcount:			
25	FUNDING:			
26	General Funds: \$ 2,428,725.00			
27	Special Funds: \$ 1,048,012.00			
28	Total Funds: \$ 3,476,737.00			
29	PERSONAL SERVICES:			
30	Employee Salaries, Wages, and			
31	Fringe Benefits: \$ 3,335,091.00			
32	Progressions: \$ 0.00			
33	Vacancy Funding: \$ 141,646.00			
34	Total Personal Services: \$ 3,476,737.00			
35	AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:			
36	Permanent: 48			
37	Time-Limited: 1			
38	As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall			
39	mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category			
40	Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds			
41	in this category shall not be transferred to any other category.			
42	It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compliance			
43	with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section			

- 44 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these funds shall
- 45 be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promulgated
- 46 by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legislature's
- 47 intention that no employee's salary falls below the minimum salary
- 48 established by the Mississippi State Personnel Board.
- The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the
- 50 projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and
- 51 year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the
- 52 provisions of this act.
- With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
- 54 responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or
- 55 combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the
- 56 Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the
- 57 exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's
- 58 responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated
- 59 for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal
- 60 Year 2026 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or
- 61 positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the
- 62 Mississippi Legislature.
- If, at the time the agency takes any action to change
- 64 "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the
- 65 agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the
- 66 agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when
- 67 annualized for Fiscal Year 2026 or increase the need for "Personal
- 68 Services" for Fiscal Year 2027, when annualized, the State

- 69 Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as
- 70 the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with
- 71 the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the
- 72 agency.
- 73 When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds
- 74 included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and
- 75 designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2026. These funds
- 76 are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts
- 77 that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal
- 78 Year 2025. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1,
- 79 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2025, the amount of available
- 80 Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the
- 81 updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be
- 82 responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to
- 83 increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes,
- 84 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
- 85 salaries for current employees.
- 86 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
- 87 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
- 88 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
- 89 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 90 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
- 91 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
- 92 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts
- 93 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the

- 94 appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year
- 95 2025 escalated headcounts have been accounted for and shall be
- 96 converted to authorized time-limited headcounts.
- No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
- 98 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for
- 99 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are
- 100 withdrawn and no longer available.
- None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in
- 102 violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A
- 103 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as
- 104 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.
- 105 If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from
- 106 Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, it will be the agency's
- 107 discretion as to what headcounts are removed.
- 108 **SECTION 4.** Funds to be distributed to eligible public
- 109 library systems under the Personnel Incentive Grants Program shall
- 110 be paid quarterly in advance on or before September 30, December
- 111 31, March 31 and June 30.
- 112 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 113 Mississippi Library Commission shall maintain complete accounting
- 114 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
- 115 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the
- 116 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
- 117 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
- 118 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to

119	the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of			
120	detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided			
121	during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.			
122	SECTION 6. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of			
123	Section 2, Four Hundred Ninety-three Thousand Eight Hundred			
124	Forty-seven Dollars (\$493,847.00) shall be derived from the			
125	Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-7			
126	and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.			
127	SECTION 7. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Three			
128	Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) or so much thereof as			
129	may be necessary, is derived from the Education Enhancement Fund			
130	pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of			
131	1972, for MAGNOLIA.			
132	SECTION 8. It is the intention of the Legislature that no			
133	less than One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars			
134	(\$1,350,000.00) shall be expended for the Magnolia Database.			
135	SECTION 9. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance			
136	Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of			
137	the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized			
138	in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the			
139	intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,			
140	this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted			
141	performance measures provided below:			

FY2026

Performance Measures

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144	Administrative Services	
145	Number of Help Desk Tickets Resolved	1,150
146	Library Services	
147	Number of Continuing Education Workshops	
148	Held per Year	40
149	Number of Library Visits by Commission Staff	175
150	Number of Patrons Utilizing Braille,	
151	Audio, Etc	2,500
152	Number of Children Participating in	
153	Statewide Summer Library Prg	100,000
154	Number of Items Borrowed and Loaned on	
155	the Interlibrary Loan System	10,000
156	Number of Items Available for Use	
157	Statewide on the Interlibrary Loan	
158	System	5,000,000
159	Number of Searches on MAGNOLIA	35,000,000
160	Number of Items Available for Use at MLC	
161	(Primary Resource Library)	100,000
162	A reporting of the degree to which the performance	e targets
163	set above have been or are being achieved shall be prov	vided in the
164	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
165	Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.	
166	SECTION 10. Of the funds appropriated herein, For	ır Million
167	Eight Hundred Thirty-five Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-	-nine
168	Dollars (\$4,835,489.00) is provided for the cost of hea	alth

- insurance for all full-time library staff members in each public library in Mississippi.
- 171 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
- 172 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
- 173 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
- 174 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
- 175 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
- 176 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
- 177 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
- 178 made without competitive bids.
- 179 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 180 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
- 181 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
- 182 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
- 183 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
- 184 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
- 185 actions contrary to this provision.
- 186 **SECTION 13.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
- 187 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
- 188 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
- 189 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
- 190 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
- 191 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.
- 192 **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 193 and after July 1, 2025.