

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk,
Parks, Butler, DeBar, DeLano

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2002

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
2 STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING FOR SUPPORT OF THE EIGHT
3 UNIVERSITIES' DESIGNATED INSTITUTES, LABORATORIES AND PROGRAMS FOR
4 WHICH THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD
5 OF TRUSTEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sums of money, or so much thereof
8 as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated out of any money in
9 the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Board of
10 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning for the purpose
11 of support of the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems, Center
12 for Manufacturing Excellence, Mississippi State Chemical
13 Laboratory, Water Resources Institute, Mississippi Law Research
14 Institute, Jackson State University Urban Research Center,
15 Mississippi Mineral Resources Research Institute, Research
16 Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the Supercomputer, the
17 Stennis Institute of Government, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory,
18 Polymer Institute, Small Business Development Center, Stennis
19 Center for Higher Learning, the Commission for Volunteer Services,



20 the State Court Education Program, and the executive office of the
21 board of trustees for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and
22 ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 39,664,808.00.

23 **SECTION 2.** The following sums of money, or so much thereof
24 as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated out of the proceeds
25 from any federal, student fees or other special source funds not
26 otherwise appropriated, to the Center for Advanced Vehicular
27 Systems, Center for Manufacturing Excellence, Board of Trustees of
28 State Institutions of Higher Learning for the purpose of support
29 of the Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory, Water Resources
30 Institute, Mississippi Alcohol Safety Education Program, Stennis
31 Institute of Government, Mississippi Law Research Institute,
32 Mississippi Small Business Development Center, Mississippi Mineral
33 Resources Research Institute, Research Institute of Pharmaceutical
34 Sciences, the Supercomputer, Stennis Space Center's Center for
35 Higher Learning, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Polymer
36 Institute, Jackson State University Urban Research Center, the
37 Commission for Volunteer Services, and the executive office of the
38 board of trustees for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and
39 ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 46,460,807.00.

40 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
41 Sections 1 and 2 of this act hereof, the following amounts, or so
42 much thereof as may be necessary, shall be expended by the Board
43 of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning for the
44 purposes hereinafter set forth:



45 (a) From State General Funds, for the support of:
 46 Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems for
 47 the sum of.....\$ 4,742,588.00.
 48 Supercomputer for the sum of.....\$ 661,217.00.
 49 Center for Manufacturing Excellence for
 50 the sum of.....\$ 3,103,387.00.
 51 Mississippi Mineral Resources Institute for
 52 the sum of.....\$ 406,152.00.
 53 State Court Education Program for the
 54 sum of.....\$ 2,078,985.00.
 55 Mississippi Law Research Institute for the
 56 sum of.....\$ 917,441.00.
 57 Executive Office of the Board of Trustees for
 58 the sum of.....\$ 7,379,106.00.
 59 Mississippi Polymer Institute for
 60 the sum of.....\$ 923,749.00.
 61 Mississippi Small Business Development
 62 Center for the sum of.....\$ 361,756.00.
 63 Stennis Space Center - Center for Higher
 64 Learning for the sum of.....\$ 364,982.00.
 65 Jackson State University Urban Research
 66 Center for the sum of.....\$ 549,502.00.
 67 Stennis Institute of Government for the
 68 sum of.....\$ 795,448.00.
 69 Commission for Volunteer Services for



70	the sum of.....	\$	1,108,493.00.
71	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory for the		
72	sum of.....	\$	8,621,664.00.
73	Mississippi Water Resources Institute for the		
74	sum of.....	\$	353,177.00.
75	Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory for the		
76	sum of.....	\$	1,901,409.00.
77	Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences		
78	for the sum of.....	\$	5,395,752.00.
79	(b) From Special Funds, for the support of:		
80	Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems for		
81	the sum of.....	\$	142,903.00.
82	Center for Manufacturing Excellence for the		
83	sum of.....	\$	142,782.00.
84	Mississippi Mineral Resources Institute for		
85	the sum of.....	\$	527,861.00.
86	Mississippi State University-Alcohol Safety		
87	for the sum of.....	\$	1,934,790.00.
88	Mississippi Law Research Institute for the		
89	sum of.....	\$	1,683,458.00.
90	Executive Office of the Board of Trustees for		
91	the sum of.....	\$	17,526,737.00.
92	Mississippi Small Business Development		
93	Center for the sum of.....	\$	2,610,394.00.
94	Commission for Volunteer Services for		



95 the sum of.....\$ 3,634,647.00.

96 Gulf Coast Research Laboratory for the

97 sum of.....\$ 2,015,018.00.

98 Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory for the

99 sum of.....\$ 503,569.00.

100 Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

101 for the sum of.....\$ 15,738,648.00.

102 Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 1

103 of this act and allocated to the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory,

104 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

105 shall allocate One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars

106 (\$175,000.00) for Sea Grants matching for the Fiscal Year 2026.

107 Provided further, it is the intention of the Legislature, in

108 the event budget reductions are imposed on the Gulf Coast Research

109 Laboratory by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of

110 Higher Learning, as a result of the Governor ordering budget

111 reductions under the provisions of Section 27-104-13 or 31-17-123,

112 Mississippi Code of 1972, the same percent reduction will be

113 applied to those state funds identified in this section for Sea

114 Grant match.

115 It is the intent of the Legislature that no general funds

116 authorized to be expended herein shall be used to replace federal

117 funds and/or other special funds which are being used for salaries

118 authorized under the provisions of this act and which are

119 withdrawn and no longer available.



120 After the Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory has provided
121 the maximum amount of services which may be provided free of
122 charge under the provisions of Section 57-21-11(c), Mississippi
123 Code of 1972, the laboratory shall not provide any additional
124 services from the funds appropriated under the provisions of
125 Sections 1 and 2 of this act if any charges for such services
126 previously provided are more than ninety (90) days past due.
127 After all such delinquent charges have been paid by a client, the
128 laboratory may provide additional services to the client.

129 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
130 act and authorized for expenditure in Section 3(b) of this act,
131 the following amounts shall be derived from Education Enhancement
132 Funds deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31,
133 Mississippi Code of 1972:

134	Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems.....\$	142,782.00.
135	Center for Manufacturing Excellence.....\$	142,782.00.
136	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory.....\$	142,782.00.
137	Executive Office of the Board of Trustees	
138	for the sum of.....\$	<u>402,396.00.</u>
139	Total.....\$	830,742.00.

140 **SECTION 5.** None of the funds appropriated by this act shall
141 be expended for any purpose that is not actually required or
142 necessary for performing any of the powers or duties of the Board
143 of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, or any of
144 the powers or duties of any institution under the jurisdiction of



the board of trustees, that are authorized by the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, state or federal law, or rules or regulations that implement state or federal law.

SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that the budget requests of the individual institutes, laboratories and programs consolidated in this bill for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee 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 7. The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning shall report yearly to the Legislature any institution not in compliance with Section 97-11-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, which prohibits deficit spending.

SECTION 8. Any funds appropriated pursuant to this act and paid as a fee to or deposited in a financial institution shall be in compliance with Section 109 of the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Section 25-4-105, Mississippi Code of 1972.

SECTION 9. 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.



170 **SECTION 10.** None of the funds appropriated and/or authorized
171 for expenditure under this act shall be used for research in which
172 a human embryo is killed or destroyed.

173 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
174 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
175 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
176 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
177 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
178 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
179 actions contrary to this provision.

180 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
181 act, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) is
182 hereby provided for the National Center for Cannabis Research and
183 Education at the University of Mississippi - Research Institute of
184 Pharmaceutical Sciences for the purpose of data analysis,
185 educational initiatives, and other activities in collaboration
186 with the State Department of Health pursuant to Section 41-138-1,
187 Mississippi Code of 1972.

188 **SECTION 13.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
189 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
190 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Executive Office
191 of the Board of Trustees for the purpose of reauthorizing the
192 expenditure of Capital Expense Fund, as appropriated in SB 3007,
193 2024 Regular Session, for the repair, maintenance, or replacement
194 of the fire detection and suppression system at the IHL Education



195 and Research Center for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025,
196 and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 300,000.00.

197 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
198 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
199 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
200 remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the
201 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
202 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

203 **SECTION 14.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
204 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
205 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
206 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
207 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
208 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

209 **SECTION 15.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
210 and after July 1, 2025.

