

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

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2004

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND
2 MAINTENANCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY
3 EXPERIMENT STATION FOR 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 hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support and
8 maintenance of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry
9 Experiment Station for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and
10 ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 24,543,567.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special
13 source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available
14 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi
15 Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station for the fiscal year
16 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....
17\$ 10,495,120.00.



18 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
19 act, One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
20 (\$1,350,000.00) shall be derived from the Education Enhancement
21 Fund from funds deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and
22 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

23 **SECTION 4.** No general funds authorized to be expended herein
24 shall be used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds
25 which are being used for salaries authorized under the provisions
26 of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

27 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that if
28 the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act are used directly
29 or indirectly to match or otherwise secure any federal grants,
30 research grants or donations, such special source funds not
31 classified as current restricted funds shall be added and
32 accounted for under Section 2 of this act. Further, it is the
33 intention of the Legislature that all such aforementioned special
34 source funds be included in all reports and requests for the 2026
35 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

36 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
37 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to
38 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
39 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
40 during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

41 **SECTION 7.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
42 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of



43 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
44 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
45 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
46 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
47 performance measures provided below:

48		FY2026
49	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>

50 Plant Systems

51	Number of Scientist FTE (Scientist Years)	29.78
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52	Number of Research Publications	227
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53	Appropriated Funds & Extramural Funds	
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54	(Ratio)	1.26
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55 Animal Systems

56	Number of Scientist FTE (Scientist Years)	26.09
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57	Number of Research Publications	263
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58	Appropriated Funds & Extramural Funds	
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59	(Ratio)	0.27
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60 Health & Sustainable Communities

61	Number of Scientist FTE (Scientist Years)	43.10
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62	Number of Research Publications	212
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63	Appropriated Funds & Extramural Funds	
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64	(Ratio)	0.37
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65 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
66 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the



67 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
68 Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.

69 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
70 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
71 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
72 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
73 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
74 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
75 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
76 made without competitive bids.

77 **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
78 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
79 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
80 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
81 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
82 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
83 actions contrary to this provision.

84 **SECTION 10.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
85 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
86 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
87 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
88 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
89 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

90 **SECTION 11.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
91 and after July 1, 2025.

