

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

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2005

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND
2 MAINTENANCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE FOR
3 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 Cooperative Extension Service for
9 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
10 June 30, 2026.....\$ 33,373,050.00.

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 Cooperative Extension Service for the fiscal year beginning
16 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 14,532,411.00.

17 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
18 act, One Million One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars



(\$1,150,000.00) shall be derived from the Education Enhancement Fund from funds deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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and/or other special funds which are being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service provide programs in the emphasis areas of Agriculture, Family and Consumer Education, Natural Resources and Environment, 4-H, and Business and Community Development in each county.

SECTION 6. No part of the funds appropriated or authorized to be expended hereby shall be spent directly or indirectly for payment of attorneys' fees for the services of any attorney who was not employed by the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service pursuant to the express authorization of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning prior to performance of such legal services.

SECTION 7. It is the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request 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 8. It is the intention of the Legislature that if the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act are used directly or indirectly to match or otherwise secure any federal grants, research grants or donations, such special source funds not classified as current restricted funds shall be added and accounted for under Section 2 of this act. Further, it is the intention of the Legislature that all such aforementioned special source funds be included in all reports and requests for the 2026 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

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>
Agriculture	
Published Information	300
Mass Media	4,500
Number of Direct Educational Contacts	270,000
Average Cost per Educational Contact	13.46
Family & Consumer Education	
Published Information	150



68	Number of Direct Educational Contacts	205,000
69	Average Cost per Educational Contact	9.34
70	Business & Community Dev	
71	Number of Direct Educational Contacts	88,000
72	Average Cost per Educational Contact	20.28
73	4-H Youth Development	
74	Number of Direct Educational Contacts	178,000
75	Average Cost per Educational Contact	11.66
76	Natural Resources & Environment	
77	Published Information	150
78	Mass Media	6,000
79	Number of Total Contacts (Persons Across	
80	all Delivery Methods/Events)	370,000
81	Average Cost per Educational Contact	27.75
82	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets	
83	set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	
84	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
85	Committee for Fiscal Year 2027.	

86 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that

87 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the

88 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things

89 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,

90 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind

91 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 11. 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 12. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 2, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or so much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided for the purpose of assisting with costs associated with administering the Mississippi Youth Preparedness Initiative.

SECTION 13. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 14. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

