

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

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2006

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE
3 FOREST AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER 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, to the Board of Trustees
8 of State Institutions of Higher Learning for the purpose of paying
9 the expenses incurred in the operation and maintenance of the
10 Forest and Wildlife Research Center, for the fiscal year beginning
11 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 6,262,007.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
13 necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special
14 source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available
15 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Forest and
16 Wildlife Research Center, for the fiscal year beginning
17 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 1,369,899.00.



18 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
19 act, Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000.00) shall be
20 derived from the Education Enhancement Fund from funds deposited
21 pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of
22 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26 of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.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 restricted funds shall be added and accounted for
32 under Section 2 of this act. Further, it is the intention of the
33 Legislature that all such aforementioned special source funds be
34 included in all reports and requests for the 2026 Regular Session
35 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.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
42 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the



43 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
44 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
45 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
46 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
47 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
48 made without competitive bids.

49 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
50 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
51 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
52 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
53 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
54 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
55 actions contrary to this provision.

56 **SECTION 9.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
57 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital
58 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Forest and
59 Wildlife Research Center for the purpose of reauthorizing the
60 expenditure of Capital Expense Fund, as appropriated in SB 3011,
61 2024 Regular Session, for the Deer Lab renovations for the fiscal
62 year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....
63\$ 1,000,000.00.

64 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
65 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
66 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
67 remaining as of June 30, 2025, from the amount authorized for the



68 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
69 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

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

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

