By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, To: Appropriations Blackwell, McLendon, Simmons (13th)

SENATE BILL NO. 2044

| 1 2 | AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. |
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| 3 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: |
| 4 | SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 5 | necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State |
| 6 | General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of |
| 7 | the Department of Finance and Administration for the fiscal year |
| 8 | beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| 9 | \$ 38,038,320.00. |
| LO | SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| L1 | necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State |
| L2 | Treasury to the credit of the Department of Finance and |
| L3 | Administration for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred |
| L 4 | in the operation of the various offices of the department for the |
| L5 | fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| L 6 | \$ 75,282,793.00. |
| L7 | SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of |
| L8 | this act, not more than the following amount of funds, with the |
| | S. B. No. 2044 |

| 20 | only for "Personal Services," which i | ncludes "Vacancy Funding," |
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| 21 | for the following authorized number o | f employment headcount: |
| 22 | FUNDING: | |
| 23 | General Funds: | \$ 20,326,404.00 |
| 24 | Special Funds: | \$ 6,084,447.00 |
| 25 | Total Funds: | \$ 26,410,851.00 |
| 26 | PERSONAL SERVICES: | |
| 27 | Employee Salaries, Wages, a | nd |
| 28 | Fringe Benefits: | \$ 25,521,371.00 |
| 29 | Progressions: | \$ 0.00 |
| 30 | Vacancy Funding: | \$ 889,480.00 |
| 31 | Total Personal Services: | \$ 26,410,851.00 |
| 32 | AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT: | |
| 33 | Permanent: | 300 |
| 34 | Time-Limited: | 1 |
| 35 | As used in this section, the ter | m "Personal Services" shall |
| 36 | mean funds provided under the major o | bject of expenditure category |
| 37 | Personal Services for Salaries, Wages | , and Fringe Benefits. Funds |
| 38 | in this category shall not be transfe | rred to any other category. |
| 39 | It is the intention of the Legis | lature to ensure compliance |
| 40 | with the Variable Compensation Plan, | as outlined in Section |
| 41 | 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. P | ayment from these funds shall |
| 42 | be in accordance with the Variable Co | mpensation Plan promulgated |
| 43 | by the Mississippi State Personnel Bo | ard. It is the Legislature's |

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

- the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the agency.
- 70 When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds
- 71 included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and
- 72 designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2026. These funds
- 73 are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts
- 74 that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal
- 75 Year 2025. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1,
- 76 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2025, the amount of available
- 77 Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the
- 78 updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be
- 79 responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to
- 80 increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes,
- 81 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
- 82 salaries for current employees.
- 83 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
- 84 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
- 85 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
- 86 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 87 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
- 88 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
- 89 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts
- 90 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
- 91 appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year

| 92 | 2025 escalated headcounts have been accounted for and shall be |
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| 93 | converted to authorized time-limited headcounts. |
| 94 | No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be |
| 95 | used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for |
| 96 | salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are |
| 97 | withdrawn and no longer available. |
| 98 | None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in |
| 99 | violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A |
| 100 | relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as |
| 101 | interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor. |
| 102 | If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from |
| 103 | Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, it will be the agency's |
| 104 | discretion as to what headcounts are removed. |
| 105 | SECTION 4. In addition to all other sums herein |
| 106 | appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 107 | necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Tort |
| 108 | Claims Trust Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of |
| 109 | defraying the expenses of the Tort Claims Board in the |
| 110 | administration of the Tort Claims Act for the fiscal year |
| 111 | beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| 112 | \$ 6,335,412.00. |
| 113 | SECTION 5. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of |
| 114 | this act, not more than the following amount of funds, with the |
| 115 | exception of the provisions in this section, shall be expended |

| 116 | only for "Personal Services," which includes "Vacancy Funding," |
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| 117 | for the following authorized number of employment headcount: |
| 118 | FUNDING: |
| 119 | General Funds: \$ 0.00 |
| 120 | Special Funds: \$ 391,502.00 |
| 121 | Total Funds: \$ 391,502.00 |
| 122 | PERSONAL SERVICES: |
| 123 | Employee Salaries, Wages, and |
| 124 | Fringe Benefits: \$ 352,352.00 |
| 125 | Progressions: \$ 0.00 |
| 126 | Vacancy Funding: \$ 39,150.00 |
| 127 | Total Personal Services: \$ 391,502.00 |
| 128 | AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT: |
| 129 | Permanent: 4 |
| 130 | Time-Limited: 0 |
| 131 | As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall |
| 132 | mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category |
| 133 | Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds |
| 134 | in this category shall not be transferred to any other category. |
| 135 | It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compliance |
| 136 | with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section |
| 137 | 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these funds shall |
| 138 | be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promulgated |
| 139 | by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legislature's |

| 140 | intention | that | no | employee's | salary | falls | below | the | minimum | salary |
|-----|------------|-------|-----|------------|----------|-------|---------|-------|---------|--------|
| 141 | establishe | ed by | the | Mississipp | oi State | Perso | onnel : | Board | d. | |

The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the provisions of this act.

With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi Legislature.

"Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when annualized for Fiscal Year 2026 or increase the need for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2027, when annualized, the State Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as

the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with

the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the agency.

166 When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds 167 included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and 168 designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2026. These funds 169 are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts 170 that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal 171 Year 2025. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1, 172 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2025, the amount of available 173 Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the 174 updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be 175 responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to 176 increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes, 177 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing 178 salaries for current employees.

Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year

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| 188 | 2025 escalate | ed headcounts | have been | accounted | for | and | shall | be |
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| 189 | converted to | authorized t | ime-limite | d headcount | cs. | | | |

190 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for 191 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are 192 193 withdrawn and no longer available.

194 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A 195 196 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as 197 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

198 If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from 199 Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, it will be the agency's 200 discretion as to what headcounts are removed.

SECTION 6. In addition to all other sums herein appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Commission on the Status of Women for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 44,125.00.

208 SECTION 7. In addition to all other sums herein 209 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be 210 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State 211 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Commission on the Status of Women for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the 212

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| 213 | commission for the fiscal year beginni | ng Jul | y 1, 2025, | and ending |
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| 214 | June 30, 2026 | | \$ | 3,135.00. |
| 215 | This appropriation is made for th | e purp | ose of prov | iding funds |
| 216 | to defray the expense of the Mississip | pi Com | mission on | the Status |
| 217 | of Women as established pursuant to Se | ctions | 43-59-1 th | rough |
| 218 | 43-59-14, Mississippi Code of 1972. | | | |
| 219 | SECTION 8. Of the funds appropri | ated u | nder the pr | ovisions of |
| 220 | Sections 6 and 7 of this act, not more | than | the followi | ng amount |
| 221 | of funds, with the exception of the pr | ovisio | ns in this | section, |
| 222 | shall be expended only for "Personal S | ervice | s," which i | ncludes |
| 223 | "Vacancy Funding," for the following a | uthori | zed number | of |
| 224 | employment headcount: | | | |
| 225 | FUNDING: | | | |
| 226 | General Funds: | \$ | 44,125.00 | |
| 227 | Special Funds: | \$ | 0.00 | |
| 228 | Total Funds: | \$ | 44,125.00 | |
| 229 | PERSONAL SERVICES: | | | |
| 230 | Employee Salaries, Wages, an | .d | | |
| 231 | Fringe Benefits: | \$ | 0.00 | |
| 232 | Progressions: | \$ | 0.00 | |
| 233 | Vacancy Funding: | \$ | 44,125.00 | |
| 234 | Total Personal Services: | \$ | 44,125.00 | |
| 235 | AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT: | | | |
| 236 | Permanent: | 1 | | |
| 237 | Time-Limited: | 0 | | |

| 238 | As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall |
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| 239 | mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category |
| 240 | Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds |
| 241 | in this category shall not be transferred to any other category. |
| 242 | It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compliance |
| 243 | with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section |
| 244 | 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these funds shall |
| 245 | be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promulgated |
| 246 | by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legislature's |
| 247 | intention that no employee's salary falls below the minimum salary |
| 248 | established by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. |
| 249 | The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the |
| 250 | projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and |
| 251 | year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the |
| 252 | provisions of this act. |
| 253 | With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's |
| 254 | responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or |
| 255 | combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the |
| 256 | Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the |
| 257 | exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's |
| 258 | responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated |
| 259 | for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal |
| 260 | Year 2026 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or |
| 261 | positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the |

Mississippi Legislature.

| 263 | If, at the time the agency takes any action to change |
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| 264 | "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the |
| 265 | agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the |
| 266 | agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when |
| 267 | annualized for Fiscal Year 2026 or increase the need for "Personal |
| 268 | Services" for Fiscal Year 2027, when annualized, the State |
| 269 | Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as |
| 270 | the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with |
| 271 | the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the |
| 272 | agency. |
| 273 | When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds |
| 274 | included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and |
| 275 | designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2026. These funds |
| 276 | are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts |
| 277 | that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal |
| 278 | Year 2025. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1, |
| 279 | 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2025, the amount of available |
| 280 | Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the |
| 281 | updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be |
| 282 | responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to |
| 283 | increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes, |
| 284 | in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing |
| 285 | salaries for current employees. |
| 286 | Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with |

the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or

| 288 | allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State |
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| 289 | Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written |
| 290 | approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The |
| 291 | Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide writter |
| 292 | approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts |
| 293 | without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the |
| 294 | appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year |
| 295 | 2025 escalated headcounts have been accounted for and shall be |
| 296 | converted to authorized time-limited headcounts. |

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

None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

305 If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from 306 Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, it will be the agency's 307 discretion as to what headcounts are removed.

SECTION 9. In addition to all other sums herein appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of State Property

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| 312 | Insurance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending |
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| 313 | June 30, 2026\$ 23,466,713.00. |
| 314 | SECTION 10. Of the funds herein appropriated, it is the |
| 315 | intention of the Legislature that two (2) of the allotted |
| 316 | Full-Time Permanent Headcount in Section 3 of this act may be used |
| 317 | for performing related administrative duties of the State Property |
| 318 | Insurance Program. |
| 319 | SECTION 11. In addition to all other sums herein |
| 320 | appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 321 | necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General |
| 322 | Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department of Finance and |
| 323 | Administration for the purpose of providing a grant to the |
| 324 | Mississippi Home Corporation, for the fiscal year beginning |
| 325 | July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 1,810,227.00. |
| 326 | SECTION 12. The funds appropriated in Section 11 of this act |
| 327 | shall be targeted to individuals with disabilities or individuals |
| 328 | with serious mental illnesses who: |
| 329 | (1) Are being discharged from a state psychiatric hospital |
| 330 | after a stay of more than ninety (90) days; or, nursing facility, |
| 331 | or intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual |
| 332 | disabilities after a stay of more than ninety (90) days; or |
| 333 | (2) Have been discharged from a state psychiatric hospital |
| 334 | within the last two (2) years; and |
| 335 | (a) Had multiple hospital visits in the last year due |
| 336 | to mental illness; or |

| 337 | (b) Are known to the mental health or state-housing |
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| 338 | agency to have been arrested or incarcerated in the last year due |
| 339 | to conduct related to mental illness; or |
| 340 | (c) Are known to the mental health or state-housing |
| 341 | agency to have been homeless for one (1) full year or have had |
| 342 | four (4) or more episodes of homelessness in the last three (3) |
| 343 | years; or |
| 344 | (3) Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence |
| 345 | and includes a subset for an individual who is exiting an |
| 346 | institution where he or she resided for ninety (90) days or less |
| 347 | and who resides in an emergency shelter or a place not meant for |
| 348 | human habitation immediately before entering that institution. |
| 349 | Any funds appropriated herein to hire additional staff or |
| 350 | employ staff shall only be used to implement this housing program |
| 351 | SECTION 13. It is the intention of the Legislature that the |
| 352 | Mississippi Home Corporation shall provide an annual financial |
| 353 | report based upon the state's fiscal year to the Attorney General, |
| 354 | the Chairman of Senate Appropriations, the Chairman of House |
| 355 | Appropriations, and the Legislative Budget Office. |
| 356 | SECTION 14. It is the intention of the Legislature that none |
| 357 | of the funds appropriated under the provisions of this act for the |
| 358 | Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC) shall be expended for the |
| 359 | purpose of making a payment of any kind or for any purpose, |

directly or indirectly, to a member of the State of Mississippi

| 361 | Legislature, state official, MHC board member, or person who has |
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| 362 | been a member of the MHC within the last year. |
| 363 | SECTION 15. In addition to all other sums herein |
| 364 | appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 365 | necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General |
| 366 | Fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Broadband |
| 367 | Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) as established |
| 368 | in Sections 77-19-1 through 77-19-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, |
| 369 | for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending |
| 370 | June 30, 2026\$ 433,500.00. |
| 371 | SECTION 16. In addition to all other sums herein |
| 372 | appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 373 | necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State |
| 374 | Treasury to the credit of the Broadband Expansion and |
| 375 | Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) as established in Sections |
| 376 | 77-19-1 through 77-19-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the |
| 377 | purpose of defraying the expenses of the commission for the fiscal |
| 378 | year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| 379 | \$ 175,914,472.00. |
| 380 | SECTION 17. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions |
| 381 | of Sections 15 and 16 of this act, not more than the following |
| 382 | amount of funds, with the exception of the provisions in this |
| 383 | section, shall be expended only for "Personal Services," which |
| 384 | includes "Vacancy Funding," for the following authorized number of |
| 385 | employment headcount: |

| 300 | FUNDING: | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 387 | General Funds: \$ 300,000.00 | | | | | | | |
| 388 | Special Funds: \$ 470,768.00 | | | | | | | |
| 389 | Total Funds: \$ 770,768.00 | | | | | | | |
| 390 | PERSONAL SERVICES: | | | | | | | |
| 391 | Employee Salaries, Wages, and | | | | | | | |
| 392 | Fringe Benefits: \$ 770,768.00 | | | | | | | |
| 393 | Progressions: \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| 394 | Vacancy Funding: \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| 395 | Total Personal Services: \$ 770,768.00 | | | | | | | |
| 396 | AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT: | | | | | | | |
| 397 | Permanent: 6 | | | | | | | |
| 398 | Time-Limited: 0 | | | | | | | |
| 399 | As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall | | | | | | | |
| 400 | mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category | | | | | | | |
| 401 | Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds | | | | | | | |
| 402 | in this category shall not be transferred to any other cate | gory. | | | | | | |
| 403 | It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compl | iance | | | | | | |
| 404 | with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section | l | | | | | | |
| 405 | 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these fund | ls shall | | | | | | |
| 406 | be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promul | gated | | | | | | |
| 407 | by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legisla | ture's | | | | | | |
| 408 | intention that no employee's salary falls below the minimum salary | | | | | | | |
| 409 | established by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. | | | | | | | |

386 FUNDING:

| 111 | projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and |
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| 112 | year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the |
| 113 | provisions of this act. |
| 114 | With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's |
| 115 | responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or |
| 116 | combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the |
| 117 | Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the |
| 118 | exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's |
| 119 | responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated |
| 120 | for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal |
| 121 | Year 2026 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or |
| 122 | positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the |
| 123 | Mississippi Legislature. |
| 124 | If, at the time the agency takes any action to change |
| 125 | "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the |
| 126 | agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the |
| 127 | agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when |
| 128 | annualized for Fiscal Year 2026 or increase the need for "Personal |
| 129 | Services" for Fiscal Year 2027, when annualized, the State |
| 130 | Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as |
| 131 | the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with |
| 132 | the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the |
| 133 | agency. |

The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the

| 434 | When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 435 | included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and | | | | | | | |
| 436 | designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2026. These funds | | | | | | | |
| 437 | are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts | | | | | | | |
| 438 | that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal | | | | | | | |
| 439 | Year 2025. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1, | | | | | | | |
| 440 | 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2025, the amount of available | | | | | | | |
| 441 | Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the | | | | | | | |
| 442 | updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be | | | | | | | |
| 443 | responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to | | | | | | | |
| 444 | increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes, | | | | | | | |
| 445 | in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing | | | | | | | |
| 446 | salaries for current employees. | | | | | | | |
| 447 | Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with | | | | | | | |
| 448 | the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or | | | | | | | |
| 449 | allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State | | | | | | | |
| 450 | Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written | | | | | | | |
| 451 | approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The | | | | | | | |
| 452 | Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written | | | | | | | |
| 453 | approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts | | | | | | | |
| 454 | without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the | | | | | | | |
| 455 | appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year | | | | | | | |
| 456 | 2025 escalated headcounts have been accounted for and shall be | | | | | | | |
| 457 | converted to authorized time-limited headcounts. | | | | | | | |

| 458 | No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be |
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| 459 | used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for |
| 460 | salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are |
| 461 | withdrawn and no longer available. |
| 462 | None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in |
| 463 | violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A |

violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A
relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as
interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026, it will be the agency's discretion as to what headcounts are removed.

SECTION 18. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Department of Finance and Administration shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2025. It is further 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 19. The department is authorized to expend available funds on technology or equipment upgrades or replacements when it will generate savings through efficiency or when the savings

482 generated from such upgrades or replacements exceed expenditures 483 thereof.

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.

Property Management of the Office of General Services is hereby expressly authorized and empowered to receive, budget and expend any state, local or other source funds designated for supplemental funding of construction and/or repairs and renovation projects.

The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management of the Office of General Services shall not use any of the funds authorized in this section to pay salaries. For the purposes of this section, the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management of the Office of General Services does not have the authority to escalate from the Capital Expense Fund or the Working Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund.

SECTION 22. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this act, it is the intention of the Legislature that an amount not to exceed Four Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,500,000.00)

- is authorized to be expended for the purpose of transferring funds
- 508 to the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management
- 509 for the administration of projects for the repair and maintenance
- 510 of state-owned buildings.
- 511 **SECTION 23.** A report based on expenditures incurred during
- 512 the current and immediate past fiscal years shall be provided to
- 513 the Legislative Budget Office each regularly scheduled legislative
- 514 session. This report should reflect expenditures as a result of
- 515 the operation of the Robert E. Lee Building, the Woolfolk State
- 516 Office Building, the Gartin and Sillers Buildings, the Capitol
- 517 Buildings, the Central High School Building, the Robert G. Clark,
- 518 Jr. Building and other state buildings, and this report should
- 519 contain any steps taken to reduce operating costs.
- 520 **SECTION 24.** It is the intention of the Legislature that no
- 521 state-owned aircraft shall be utilized by any person except for
- 522 official business only.
- 523 **SECTION 25.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
- 524 act, an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars
- 525 (\$100,000.00) is authorized to be expended to defray any shortfall
- 526 in the Master Lease Purchase Program as defined in Section
- 527 31-7-10, Mississippi Code of 1972.
- 528 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this
- 529 act, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) shall be expended
- 530 from the Capitol Complex Improvement District Project Fund, as
- 531 established in Section 29-5-215, Mississippi Code of 1972.

| 32 | SECTION 27. It is the intent of the Legislature that the |
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| 533 | Department of Finance and Administration shall have the authority |
| 534 | to escalate its budget and expend such funds in a manner |
| 535 | consistent with the escalation of federal funds in an amount not |
| 536 | to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) from the |
| 537 | Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the purpose of |
| 538 | defraying administrative and reporting costs. |
| 539 | SECTION 28. In addition to all other sums herein |
| 540 | appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 541 | necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the United |
| 542 | States Fire Insurance Company Settlement Fund as created in Senate |
| 543 | Bill 2049, 2025 First Extraordinary Session, and allocated in a |
| 544 | manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office to the credit of |
| 545 | the Department of Finance and Administration for the purpose of |
| 546 | repair, renovation and improvement to the bookstore at Mississippi |
| 547 | Delta Community College pursuant to the 2025 settlement |
| 548 | Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration, Bureau of |
| 549 | Building, Grounds and Real Property Management vs. United States |
| 550 | Fire Insurance Company, Civil Action No. 2024-0293 for the fiscal |
| 551 | year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| 552 | \$ 310,362.00. |
| 553 | SECTION 29. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this |
| 554 | act, Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), or so much thereof, |
| 555 | shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the |
| 556 | credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section |

| 557 | 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as |
|-----|--|
| 558 | determined by the Treasurer's Office to the Department of Finance |
| 559 | and Administration for the purpose of maintenance, refresh, and |
| 560 | upgrades to the Statewide Payroll and Human Resource System |
| 561 | (SPAHRS). |
| 562 | SECTION 30. Of the funds in Section 2 of this act, Two |
| 563 | Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,250,000.00) or so |
| 564 | much thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any |
| 565 | money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense |
| 566 | Fund, as created in Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, |
| 567 | and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's |
| 568 | Office. These funds are provided for expenses incurred by the |
| 569 | Mississippi Semiquincentennial Commission to plan, promote and |
| 570 | implement public celebrations, events, programs and commemorations |
| 571 | as outlined in Section 39-41-1, Mississippi Code of 1972. |
| 572 | SECTION 31. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this |
| 573 | act, Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00) or so much |
| 574 | thereof, shall be derived out of the 2024 Local Improvements |
| 575 | Projects Fund to the credit of the Department of Finance and |
| 576 | Administration. The funds are provided for such purposes as |
| 577 | follows: |
| 578 | (a) To assist Marshall County, Mississippi, in paying costs |
| 579 | associated with the completion of the Blackwater Road Bridge |
| 580 | Project \$ 300 000 00 |

| 582 | costs associated with infrastructure improvements and related |
|-----|---|
| 583 | projects\$ 500,000.00. |
| 584 | SECTION 32. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this |
| 585 | act, Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00), or so much thereof |
| 586 | as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State |
| 587 | Treasury to the credit of the Land Improvement Fund as created in |
| 588 | Section 7-3-91 and amended by Senate Bill 2050, 2025 First |
| 589 | Extraordinary Session for the purpose provided therein. None of |
| 590 | the funds appropriated herein and allocated within this section |
| 591 | may be used for infrastructure that is exclusively for the purpose |
| 592 | of the game of golf. |
| 593 | SECTION 33. Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this |
| 594 | act, Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), or so much thereof as |
| 595 | may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State |
| 596 | Treasury to the credit of the Lift at the Mississippi Children's |
| 597 | Museum fund as created in Senate Bill 2050, 2025 First |
| 598 | Extraordinary Session for the purpose provided therein. |
| 599 | SECTION 34. The following sum, or so much of it as may be |
| 600 | necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital City |
| 601 | Water/Sewer Projects Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the |
| 602 | Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized in Senate |
| 603 | Bill No. 3054, 2024 Regular Session, for the purpose of providing |
| 604 | funds to assist the City of Jackson, Mississippi, in paying costs |
| 605 | associated with construction, reconstruction, repairs, upgrades |

To assist the City of Richland, Mississippi, in paying

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(b)

| 506 | and improvements to the City of Jackson's water and sewer systems |
|-----|--|
| 507 | and related facilities as authorized in Section 29-5-251, |
| 508 | established in Section 37-185-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, for |
| 509 | the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending |
| 510 | June 30, 2026\$ 27,700,459.00. |
| 511 | Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section, |
| 512 | in no event shall the amount expended exceed the unexpended |
| 513 | balance of the funds remaining as of June 30, 2025, or change the |
| 514 | purpose for which the funds were originally authorized. |
| 515 | SECTION 35. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be |
| 516 | necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus |
| 517 | State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the |
| 518 | Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized in Senate |
| 519 | Bill 3054, 2024 Regular Session, for the purpose of defraying |
| 520 | eligible administration and reporting expenses related to the |
| 521 | Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the fiscal year |
| 522 | beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 |
| 523 | \$ 6,780,203.00. |
| 524 | Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section, |
| 525 | in no event shall the amount expended exceed the unexpended |
| 526 | balance of the funds remaining as of June 30, 2025, or change the |
| 527 | purpose for which the funds were originally authorized. |
| 528 | SECTION 36. With the funds appropriated herein, the |
| 529 | Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration is authorized |
| 530 | to make payments for expenses incurred during fiscal years 2021 |

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- 632 Hundred Seventy-eight Dollars and Thirty-two Cents (\$98,878.32).
- 633 These payments are for invoices from the City of Jackson Water and
- 634 Mississippi Industries for the Blind.
- 635 **SECTION 37.** Notwithstanding any other provision, the agency
- 636 shall have the authority to escalate its headcount for any
- 637 additional operational needs related to Coronavirus State Fiscal
- 638 Recovery Funds, upon approval of the Department of Finance and
- 639 Administration and the State Personnel Board.
- SECTION 38. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 641 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
- 642 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
- 643 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
- 644 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
- or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
- 646 actions contrary to this provision.
- SECTION 39. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
- 648 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
- 649 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
- 650 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
- 651 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
- 652 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.
- 653 **SECTION 40.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 654 and after July 1, 2025.