

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 1748: Appropriation; Rehabilitation Services - Consolidated.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

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 the Department of
7 Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year beginning
8 July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005.....\$ 6,791,723.00.

9 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
10 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special
11 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of
12 Rehabilitation Services which is comprised of special source funds
13 collected by or otherwise available to the department for the
14 support of the various offices of the department, for the purpose
15 of defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal year
16 beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005
17\$ 112,486,714.00.

18 **SECTION 3.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
19 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
20 Treasury to the credit of the Health Care Expendable Fund, for the
21 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Department of
22 Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year beginning
23 July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005.....\$ 6,461,421.00.

24 The above funds shall be allocated as follows:

25 Fully match all available federal
 26 funds.....\$4,883,338.00
 27 Independent Living Program which
 28 includes the State Attendant
 29 Care Program.....\$1,500,322.00
 30 Deaf and hard of hearing.....\$ 77,761.00

31 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
 32 Sections 1, 2 and 3, not more than the amounts set forth below
 33 shall be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of
 34 expenditure:

35 **OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

36 MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

37 Personal Services:

38	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. \$	20,083,779.00
39	Travel and Subsistence.....	724,345.00
40	Contractual Services	3,977,091.00
41	Commodities.....	298,363.00
42	Capital Outlay:	
43	Other Than Equipment	0.00
44	Equipment	407,382.00
45	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>20,151,331.00</u>
46	Total..... \$	45,642,291.00

47 FUNDING:

48	General Funds	\$ 4,734,082.00
49	Special Funds	<u>40,908,209.00</u>
50	Total..... \$	45,642,291.00

51 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

52	Permanent: Full Time	433
53	Part Time	8
54	Time-Limited: Full Time	100
55	Part Time	2

56 **OFFICE OF DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES**

57	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:	
58	Personal Services:	
59	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. \$	12,819,095.00
60	Travel and Subsistence.....	225,000.00
61	Contractual Services	9,051,964.00
62	Commodities.....	523,390.00
63	Capital Outlay:	
64	Other Than Equipment	0.00
65	Equipment	1,000,000.00
66	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>10,788,445.00</u>
67	Total..... \$	34,407,894.00

68	FUNDING:	
69	General Funds	\$ 0.00
70	Special Funds	<u>34,407,894.00</u>
71	Total..... \$	34,407,894.00

72	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:	
73	Permanent: Full Time	269
74	Part Time	20
75	Time-Limited: Full Time	38
76	Part Time	0

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR THE BLIND

78	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:	
79	Personal Services:	
80	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. \$	3,607,806.00
81	Travel and Subsistence.....	131,843.00
82	Contractual Services	872,433.00
83	Commodities.....	74,989.00
84	Capital Outlay:	
85	Other Than Equipment	13,000.00
86	Equipment	232,875.00
87	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>6,611,580.00</u>
88	Total..... \$	11,544,526.00

89	FUNDING:	
90	General Funds	\$ 1,053,999.00
91	Special Funds	<u>10,490,527.00</u>
92	Total	\$ 11,544,526.00

93	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:	
94	Permanent: Full Time	82
95	Part Time	0
96	Time-Limited: Full Time	4
97	Part Time	2

98 The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind shall
 99 remain accredited by using not more than Five Hundred Dollars
 100 (\$500.00) of the funds appropriated along with matching funds for
 101 payment of fees to an accreditation agency recommended by the
 102 Rehabilitation Services Administration.

103 **OFFICE OF SUPPORT SERVICES**

104	MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:	
105	Personal Services:	
106	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits ..	\$ 1,663,887.00
107	Travel and Subsistence.....	85,000.00
108	Contractual Services	520,000.00
109	Commodities.....	53,000.00
110	Capital Outlay:	
111	Other Than Equipment	0.00
112	Equipment	35,000.00
113	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>0.00</u>
114	Total	\$ 2,356,887.00

115	FUNDING:	
116	General Funds	\$ 0.00
117	Special Funds	<u>2,356,887.00</u>
118	Total	\$ 2,356,887.00

119	AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:	
120	Permanent: Full Time	24

121	Part Time	1
122	Time-Limited: Full Time	0
123	Part Time	0

SPINAL CORD AND HEAD INJURY PROGRAM

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

126	Personal Services:	
127	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. \$	104,054.00
128	Travel and Subsistence.....	20,000.00
129	Contractual Services	75,000.00
130	Commodities.....	13,000.00
131	Capital Outlay:	
132	Other Than Equipment	0.00
133	Equipment	15,000.00
134	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>10,220,902.00</u>
135	Total..... \$	10,447,956.00

FUNDING:

137	General Funds	\$ 0.00
138	Special Funds	<u>10,447,956.00</u>
139	Total..... \$	10,447,956.00

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

141	Permanent: Full Time	2
142	Part Time	0
143	Time-Limited: Full Time	0
144	Part Time	0

SPECIAL DISABILITY PROGRAM

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

147	Personal Services:	
148	Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. \$	1,637,456.00
149	Travel and Subsistence.....	65,000.00
150	Contractual Services	125,000.00
151	Commodities.....	25,000.00
152	Capital Outlay:	

153	Other Than Equipment	0.00
154	Equipment	20,000.00
155	Subsidies, Loans and Grants.....	<u>19,467,848.00</u>
156	Total..... \$	21,340,304.00

157 FUNDING:

158	General Funds	\$ 1,003,642.00
159	Special Funds	<u>20,336,662.00</u>
160	Total..... \$	21,340,304.00

161 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

162	Permanent: Full Time	23
163	Part Time	0
164	Time-Limited: Full Time	9
165	Part Time	0

166 With the funds herein appropriated, it is the intention of
167 the Legislature that it shall be the agency's responsibility to
168 make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal
169 Services" for Fiscal Year 2006 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2005
170 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions
171 are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2006 budget by the
172 Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the
173 Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall
174 determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all
175 appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this
176 act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to insure
177 that no single personnel action increases this projected annual
178 cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2005 appropriation for "Personal
179 Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds.
180 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal
181 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency
182 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this
183 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2005 "Personal Services"
184 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which

185 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation
186 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until
187 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

188 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
189 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
190 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
191 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
192 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
193 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
194 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
195 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
196 appropriated level.

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

201 It is the intention of the Legislature that the Executive
202 Director of the Department of Rehabilitation Services may transfer
203 between the various offices authorized herein both funds and
204 positions not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the receiving
205 office in addition to any other transfers or escalations made in
206 accordance with Section 27-104-17 (3), Mississippi Code of 1972,
207 Annotated. The Executive Director of the Department of
208 Rehabilitation Services shall submit written justification for the
209 transfer to the Legislative Budget Office and the Department of
210 Finance and Administration on or before the fifteenth of the month
211 prior to the effective date of the transfer. It is further the
212 intention of the Legislature that any transfers made under the
213 provisions of this paragraph shall be of an emergency nature and
214 that in no case shall the transfers be made which substantially
215 alter the legislative intent for the various offices as set forth
216 in the original appropriations made under this act.

217 **SECTION 5.** In addition to all other sums herein
218 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be
219 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any funds which are
220 received by or otherwise become available to the Mississippi
221 Department of Rehabilitation Services to provide funding for
222 construction grants and establishment grants for the fiscal year
223 beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005
224 \$ 4,000,000.00.

225 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
226 Department of Rehabilitation Services shall maintain complete
227 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
228 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
229 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
230 Year 2004. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
231 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2006 shall be
232 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
233 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
234 provided during the Fiscal Year 2005 budget request process.

235 **SECTION 7.** It shall be unlawful for any officer, employee or
236 other person whatsoever to use or permit or authorize the use of
237 any automobile or any other motor vehicle owned by the State of
238 Mississippi or any department, agency or institution thereof for
239 any purpose other than upon the official business of the State of
240 Mississippi or any agency, department or institution thereof.

241 It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles
242 authorized to be owned and operated by this agency shall comply
243 with Sections 25-1-77 through 25-1-93, Mississippi Code of 1972.

244 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds in Sections 1, 2 and 3, the
245 Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services through the
246 Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind is authorized to
247 expend an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars
248 (\$100,000.00) for the National Federation for the Blind (NFB)

249 Newslite service to allow blind and visually impaired persons to
250 access newspapers through toll-free telephone calls.

251 **SECTION 9.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
252 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
253 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
254 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
255 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
256 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

257 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
258 and after July 1, 2004.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Johnny W. Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Joseph L. Warren

X (SIGNED)
Cecil Brown

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Jack Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Terry C. Burton

X (SIGNED)
Billy Thames