

By: Representatives Read, Bennett, Barton,
Boyd, Busby, Clark, Clarke, Currie, Eure,
Haney, Jackson, Sanford, Watson, Young,
Hulum, Foster, Brown (70th)

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1613

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING
2 K-12 AND OTHER RELATED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CERTAIN
3 AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, FOR THE FISCAL
4 YEAR 2024.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as
7 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in the State
8 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
9 funding K-12 and other related educational activities, including
10 certain agencies and programs, in the State of Mississippi, for
11 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024,
12 as follows:

13 (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
14 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education, and
15 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
16 Division.....\$ 366,170,156.00.

17 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
18 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
19 Division of the State Department of Education.....



20\$ 83,136,063.00.

21 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
22 paying annual compensation to the Chickasaw Cession counties for
23 sixteenth section lands which they lost through sale by the state,
24 as provided in Sections 29-3-137 through 29-3-141, Mississippi
25 Code of 1972.....\$ 16,945,631.00.

26 (d) To the State Board of Education for defraying the
27 expenses of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program.....
28\$ 2,154,825,748.00.

29 TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
30 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,621,077,598.00.

31 **SECTION 2.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as
32 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in any special
33 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or
34 funds of the agencies or programs specified in the following
35 paragraphs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
36 June 30, 2024, as follows:

37 (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
38 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education,
39 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
40 Division.....\$ 2,011,243,560.00.

41 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
42 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
43 Division of the State Department of Education.....
44\$ 22,695,567.00.



45 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
46 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Adequate Education
47 Program.....\$ 245,112,197.00.

48 TOTAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
49 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,279,051,324.00.

50 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, One
51 Hundred Twenty-six Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-two Dollars
52 (\$126,472.00), or so much of that sum as may be necessary, is
53 appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit
54 of the Health Care Expendable Fund to the State Department of
55 Education for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
56 department for the Mississippi Eye Screening Program for providing
57 vision safety services.

58 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, the
59 following sums, or so much of those sums as may be necessary, are
60 derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of
61 the Education Enhancement Fund pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and
62 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as follows:

63 (a) To the State Department of Education, excluding the
64 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division, for
65 the following purposes:

66 Literacy Initiative and Assessment.....\$ 6,805,774.00
67 Educable Child.....\$ 7,000,000.00
68 Grants to school districts for
69 capital facilities and buses.....\$ 16,000,000.00



70	Instructional materials.....	\$ 25,000,000.00
71	Students with Special Needs.....	\$ 1,800,000.00
72	Implementing Performance-Based Data	
73	Collection and Accreditation	
74	Model.....	\$ 274,937.00
75	Testing.....	\$ 6,125,670.00
76	Mississippi School for Math and	
77	Science.....	\$ 275,000.00
78	Mississippi School for Fine Arts.	\$ 475,000.00
79	Early Learning Collaboratives.....	\$ 16,210,526.00
80	Other Early Learning Programs.....	\$ 20,000,000.00
81	Early Learning Coaches.....	\$ 3,251,533.00
82	Math Coaches.....	\$ 5,000,000.00
83	WorkKeys.....	\$ 1,000,000.00
84	Advanced Placement, Dual Credits,	
85	International Baccalaureate,	
86	Cambridge Diploma Endorsements.....	\$ 300,000.00
87	Vocational Technical Grants.....	\$ 1,000,000.00
88	Mississippi Schools for the Deaf	
89	and Blind.....	\$ 1,357,037.00
90	TOTAL.....	\$ 111,875,477.00
91	(b) To the State Department of Education to defray the	
92	expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division.....	
93	\$ 6,637,258.00.



94 (c) To the State Department of Education to provide
95 funding for the Mississippi Adequate Education Program.....
96\$ 245,112,197.00.

97 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the
98 following positions are authorized for the State Department of
99 Education, excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical
100 Education Division:

101 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

102	Permanent:	Full Time.....	300
103	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	143

104 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
105 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
106 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
107 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
108 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
109 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
110 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the
111 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board
112 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs
113 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the
114 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for
115 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the
116 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024
117 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions



118 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception
119 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

120 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
121 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
122 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
123 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
124 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
125 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
126 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
127 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
128 appropriated level.

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

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

137 Funds have been appropriated herein for the purpose of
138 funding Project SEC2 minimum salaries for all employees covered
139 under the Colonel Guy Groff/Neville Kenning Variable Compensation
140 Plan. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that the
141 funds are used to increase all employees' salaries up to the
142 minimum level as determined by the State Personnel Board.



143 **SECTION 6.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
 144 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
 145 the Legislature that the funds provided in this act shall be
 146 utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible to
 147 achieve the intended mission of the State Department of Education,
 148 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
 149 Division. Based on the funding authorized, this agency shall make
 150 every effort to attain the targeted performance measures provided
 151 below:

152		FY2024
153	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
154	Special Education	
155	Number of Special Education Teachers (FTE)	5,963
156	Number of Gifted Education Teachers	805
157	Percent Increase of Children with	
158	Disabilities in General Education Early	
159	Childhood Programs while Decreasing the	
160	Percent in Self-Contained Special	
161	Education Early Childhood Classrooms	76.00
162	General Administration	
163	Total Dollars Spent on General	
164	Administration	14,807,862.00
165	Percent of Total Budget Spent on General	
166	Administration	15.70
167	Create a Public-Facing Data System for	



168	All Stakeholders	100.00
169	Create a User-Friendly Website for the	
170	Public and School Districts to Access	
171	Data to Make Decisions	100.00
172	Create a Roadmap to Improve the	
173	Mississippi Student Information System	100.00
174	Number of Research Results Published to	
175	Support Improved Student Outcomes and	
176	Teacher Effectiveness	9
177	Graduation & Career Readiness	
178	Percent Increase of Students Graduating	
179	from High School Ready for College or	
180	Career in Each Subgroup	88.50
181	Early Childhood Education	
182	Percent Increase of Kindergarten	
183	Students Achieving End-Of-Year Target	
184	Score on Kindergarten Readiness	
185	Post-Test	69.05
186	Percent Increase of Early Learning	
187	Collaborative Sites Meeting Required	
188	Rate of Readiness	95.00
189	Number of Students Enrolled in Title I	
190	or Locally Funded Pre-K Classes	8,691
191	Teacher Tng & Professional Dev	
192	Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced	



193	and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools	
194	That Are High Poverty	31.00
195	Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced	
196	and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools	
197	That Are High Minority	35.00
198	Percent Increase of Districts Reporting	
199	Professional Growth System (PGS) Ratings	
200	for Teachers and Leaders	93.00
201	Percent Increase of Teacher Candidates	
202	Passing Licensure Exams on the First	
203	Attempt	35.00
204	Increase the Number of Licensed, Diverse	
205	Teachers and Leaders	35.00
206	Elementary Education	
207	Percent Increase of Students who Pass	
208	the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment at the	
209	First Administration in Each Subgroup	80.00
210	Secondary Education	
211	Increase the Number of Students	
212	Participating in and Passing Advanced	
213	Placement (AP), International	
214	Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge Exams	
215	in Each Subgroup	37.00
216	Percent Increase of Students Ready for	
217	College as Measured by Meeting ACT	



218	Benchmarks in Each Content Area (Public	
219	School Class Data, Grade 11)	11.00
220	Assessment & Development	
221	Increase the Percent of Students	
222	Proficient (Levels 4-5) on Statewide	
223	Assessments (Grades 3-8 & High School	
224	Composite) in Each Subgroup	52.00
225	Decrease the Percent of Students Scoring	
226	Levels 1-3 on Statewide Assessments in	
227	Each Subgroup	57.00
228	Increase Percent of Pre-Kindergarten	
229	Students in Public Schools Attaining	
230	Kindergarten Readiness on the Pre-K	
231	End-Of-Year Assessment	72.00
232	School Performance	
233	Percent of Schools Rated "C" or Higher	80.00
234	Percent of Districts Rated "C" or Higher	80.00
235	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	
236	on Statewide ELA Assessments in Each	
237	Subgroup	66.00
238	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	
239	on Statewide Math Assessments in Each	
240	Subgroup	68.00
241	Percent of Students Participating in	
242	Dual Credit in Each Subgroup	50.00



243	Percent of Students Passing Dual Credit	
244	in Each Subgroup	98.00
245	Increase the Growth of D and F Districts	
246	Demonstrating Growth, by Improving the	
247	Letter Grade and/or Increasing the	
248	Number of Points within a Letter Grade	76.00
249	Increase the Growth of D and F Schools	
250	by Improving the Letter Grade and/or	
251	Increasing the Number of Points within a	
252	Letter Grade	70.00
253	Increase the Growth of Districts of	
254	Transformation by Improving the Letter	
255	Grade and/or Increasing the Number of	
256	Points within a Letter Grade	100.00
257	Increase the Growth of Schools Under	
258	Districts of Transformation by Improving	
259	the Letter Grade and/or Increasing the	
260	Number of Points within a Letter Grade	100.00
261	Decrease the Number of High Schools	
262	Rated D or F	40.00
263	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets	
264	set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	
265	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
266	Committee for Fiscal Year 2025.	



267 **SECTION 7.** No school district shall expend any funds,
268 received under the School Ad Valorem Reduction Grant, unless such
269 school district has specifically identified the amount of the
270 grant within the published budget as required by Section 37-61-9,
271 Mississippi Code of 1972. The published budget shall include the
272 following statement: "Ad Valorem taxes will be \$_____ less as
273 a result of the Ad Valorem Reduction Grants enacted by the
274 Mississippi Legislature in 1992."

275 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, funds in
276 the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall come from
277 income derived from the principal of the Education Improvement
278 Trust Fund created by Section 206A, Mississippi Constitution of
279 1890, and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be used for
280 the School for Math and Science.

281 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
282 this act, the following positions are authorized for the
283 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State
284 Department of Education:

285 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

286 Permanent:	Full Time.....	48
287 Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	5

288 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
289 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
290 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
291 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are



292 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
293 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
294 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the
295 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board
296 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs
297 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the
298 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for
299 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the
300 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024
301 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions
302 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception
303 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

304 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
305 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
306 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
307 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
308 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
309 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
310 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
311 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
312 appropriated level.

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



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

321 Funds have been appropriated herein for the purpose of
322 funding Project SEC2 minimum salaries for all employees covered
323 under the Colonel Guy Groff/Neville Kenning Variable Compensation
324 Plan. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that the
325 funds are used to increase all employees' salaries up to the
326 minimum level as determined by the State Personnel Board.

327 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
328 not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty-nine Thousand Six Hundred
329 Eighty-four Dollars (\$229,684.00) is authorized for the support of
330 vocational and technical education programs as authorized in
331 Section 37-31-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, for a period in excess
332 of ten (10) months in a calendar year.

333 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
334 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State
335 Department of Education shall, with the funds appropriated in
336 Section 1, transfer no more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars
337 (\$75,000.00) to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation
338 Commission for the purpose of providing matching funds to purchase
339 soil conservation equipment.

340 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, no more
341 than One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) is



342 provided for the purpose of supporting the Future Farmers of
343 America Center.

344 **SECTION 13.** The State Department of Education shall transfer
345 the designated amounts to the appropriate entities, which shall
346 assume full responsibility for the expenditure of these funds in
347 accordance with state laws and accept all responsibility for any
348 improper expenditure, for the following:

349	Detention Centers.....	\$	1,275,000.00.
350	Dubard School.....	\$	650,000.00.
351	Dyslexia Program.....	\$	225,000.00.
352	Jobs for MS Graduates, Inc.....	\$	600,000.00.
353	Amplify Data Coaching.....	\$	1,100,000.00.
354	Magnolia Speech School.....	\$	1,000,000.00.
355	Principal Corp.....	\$	200,000.00.
356	Sight Savers.....	\$	375,000.00.
357	Teach for America.....	\$	1,250,000.00.
358	Teacher Corp.....	\$	200,000.00.
359	Children's Center for Comm & Develop.....	\$	750,000.00.
360	Vision Screening Research.....	\$	225,000.00.
361	Algebra Nation.....	\$	1,100,000.00.
362	Save the Children.....	\$	75,000.00.
363	Mississippi Construction Education Program.....	\$	212,500.00.
364	T. K. Martin Center.....	\$	75,000.00.
365	JumpStart Act.....	\$	250,000.00.
366	Mastery Prep.....	\$	200,000.00.



367 Lighthouse Academy for Dyslexia.....\$ 200,000.00.
368 Arts for All Mississippi.....\$ 40,000.00.
369 Total.....\$ 10,002,500.00.

370 **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that of
371 the funds provided for Other Early Learning Programs in Section
372 4(a), Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) is included for the
373 Mississippi Department of Education to provide grant opportunities
374 for Other Early Learning Programs through public schools including
375 other public school preschool programs not participating in Early
376 Learning Collaboratives.

377 **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
378 not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
379 (\$1,500,000.00) shall be used for technological methods for
380 agricultural programs, computer science, engineering or robotic
381 engineering programs and equipment upgrades and Mississippi
382 Elementary (ME) STEM and STEAM programs from the Career and
383 Technical Education Division of the State Department of Education.
384 All programs must meet Mississippi Science Standards and/or
385 College and Career Standards.

386 Of the funds appropriated in this section, an amount not to
387 exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be distributed to
388 the Mississippi State University Center for Cyber Education and
389 used for computer science programs development and teacher
390 training for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools
391 for the purpose of developing K-12 computer science curricula,



392 including both academic and career and technical education
393 programs, developing and delivering teacher training, and working
394 with the State Board of Education and Institutions of Higher
395 Learning in the state to develop teacher preparation programs for
396 computer science endorsements. All programs must meet the 2018
397 Mississippi Computer Science Standards and/or Mississippi College
398 and Career Standards.

399 **SECTION 16.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
400 computer science courses may be taught by certified teacher or for
401 elementary level classes, computer science courses may be taught
402 by teachers who are trained by the district in computer science
403 instruction.

404 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the sum
405 of Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-one Dollars (\$62,191.00),
406 which is the aggregate sum that the school districts in the
407 Chickasaw Cession receive annually from interest payments from the
408 Chickasaw School Fund under Section 212, Mississippi Constitution
409 of 1890, shall be deducted from the allocations to the school
410 districts as provided in Section 29-3-137, Mississippi Code of
411 1972, and shall be distributed among the school districts in the
412 Chickasaw Cession by the State Department of Education in the
413 manner that those interest payments were distributed during Fiscal
414 Year 1985.

415 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds provided in this act for the
416 purpose of funding the Mississippi Adequate Education Program as



417 determined under Section 37-151-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, the
418 base student cost in Fiscal Year 2024 shall be Six Thousand Seven
419 Hundred Fifty-nine Dollars and Twenty-seven Cents (\$6,759.27).

420 **SECTION 19.** With the funds provided in this act, it is the
421 intention of the Legislature that School Attendance Officers and
422 academic teachers at the Mississippi School for the Deaf and the
423 Mississippi School for the Blind shall receive their annual
424 increment.

425 **SECTION 20.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
426 State Board of Education shall maintain complete accounting and
427 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
428 appropriated in this act and that those records shall be in the
429 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
430 2023. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
431 budget requests for Fiscal Year 2025 shall be submitted to the
432 Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail
433 comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the
434 Fiscal Year 2024 budget request process for each agency and
435 institution appropriated funds within the provisions of this act.

436 **SECTION 21.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) to the
437 State Board of Education, not less than Twenty-three Million
438 Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$23,080,000.00) shall be used for
439 National Board Certification. Of this amount, Seven Hundred
440 Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be used for the World Class



441 Teacher Program providing instruction and assistance to teachers
442 seeking National Board Certification.

443 **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and
444 Section 4(a) not less than Fifteen Million Fifty-eight Thousand
445 Dollars (\$15,058,000.00) shall be used for the Educable Child
446 Program. It is the intention of the Legislature that the State
447 Board of Education shall allocate funding for the Educable Child
448 Program based upon a recalculated formula in a manner to include
449 only those billable days funded through appropriation of state
450 funds and not District funds. It is the intent of the Legislature
451 that the Educable Child funds shall be exempt from budget cuts
452 made to the Department of Education by the Legislature and/or the
453 Office of the Governor.

454 **SECTION 23.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
455 Section 4(a), not less than Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00)
456 shall be used for the Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program.
457 It is the intent of the Legislature that the Education Scholarship
458 Account (ESA) funds shall not be reduced by the State Department
459 of Education and/or the Office of the Governor.

460 **SECTION 24.** The public school districts of the state are
461 authorized at their discretion to pay with local funds one hundred
462 percent (100%) of the cost of the health insurance premiums of the
463 State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan for all retired
464 members of the Public Employees' Retirement System who are
465 employed as school bus drivers by the school districts. It is the



466 intention of the Legislature that no state funds shall be used for
467 this purpose.

468 **SECTION 25.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
469 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
470 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
471 stated in those received bids are equal with respect to price,
472 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
473 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
474 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
475 made without competitive bids.

476 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, not less
477 than Six Million Three Hundred Twenty-one Thousand Nine Hundred
478 Twenty-seven Dollars (\$6,321,927.00) shall be used for the
479 Compulsory School Attendance Office and School Attendance
480 Officers.

481 **SECTION 27.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the
482 intention of the Legislature that Three Million Sixty Thousand
483 Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) shall be used for the Mary
484 Kirkpatrick-Mary Sprayberry Public School Nurse Program. The
485 amount of Three Million Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) is
486 provided from the Department of Health.

487 **SECTION 28.** The State Department of Education shall contract
488 with a Certified Public Accountant to calculate components of the
489 Mississippi Adequate Education Program to include the base student
490 cost, school district allocations, total program cost, add-on



491 programs, and any other required components of Section 37-151-7,
492 Mississippi Code of 1972. The contractor shall be responsible for
493 calculating the estimates of these components due to the
494 Legislative Budget Office and the Governor by August 1 and the
495 final estimates due to the Legislative Budget Office and the
496 Governor no later than January 2. A report detailing the funding
497 of this contract shall be submitted by the State Department of
498 Education to the Legislature no later than January 30, 2024.

499 **SECTION 29.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
500 State Board of Education shall charge a fee for room and board for
501 students who enroll in the Mississippi School for Mathematics and
502 Science and the Mississippi School of Arts. Such fees will be
503 waived for any student enrolled in the State Children's Health
504 Insurance Program. The amount of such fees shall be Five Hundred
505 Dollars (\$500.00) for each semester.

506 **SECTION 30.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
507 eligible employee who meets the National Board requirements under
508 Section 37-19-7(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be paid the
509 full supplement and that such supplement shall be included on a
510 prorated basis in the employee's monthly paycheck.

511 **SECTION 31.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
512 Mississippi Department of Education may loan any general or
513 special source fund amount, not to exceed Five Million Dollars
514 (\$5,000,000.00), to any school district for the purpose of
515 providing funds to school districts through the Emergency



516 Assistance Fund as outlined in Section 37-17-6, Mississippi Code
517 of 1972, during the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
518 June 30, 2024. The school districts receiving these loans shall
519 repay the Mississippi Department of Education the amount of the
520 loan on or before June 30, 2024.

521 **SECTION 32.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Seven
522 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be transferred to the
523 Board of Health no later than December 31, 2023.

524 **SECTION 33.** Any school district receiving funds through Save
525 the Children may provide a ten percent (10%) match from local
526 funds for implementation of the program.

527 **SECTION 34.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
528 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is provided for the Mississippi
529 Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant
530 program. A portion of these funds not to exceed three percent (3%)
531 may be used for training and administrative costs related to
532 oversight and auditing of the program.

533 **SECTION 35.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
534 Section 2(a), Twenty-four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000.00) is
535 provided for an Early Childhood Education Initiative program. The
536 funding shall be provided to early learning collaboratives in
537 Fiscal Year 2024 as follows: no less than Two Thousand Five
538 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per student in a full-day program and
539 no less than One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)



540 per student in a half-day program. Funds must be matched as
541 provided by Section 37-21-51.

542 **SECTION 36.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
543 Section 4(a), Fifteen Million Ninety-four Thousand Five Hundred
544 Dollars (\$15,094,500.00) shall be used for the Literacy Initiative
545 and Assessment.

546 **SECTION 37.** Of the funds appropriated herein, funding is
547 provided for the ACT test, which is the college readiness portion
548 of the state accountability model.

549 **SECTION 38.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
550 Million Seven Hundred One Thousand Seventy-five Dollars
551 (\$2,701,075.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School of the
552 Arts and Three Million Nine Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Five
553 Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$3,957,575.00) shall be used for the
554 Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. It is the
555 intention of the Legislature that of the funds appropriated in
556 Section 1(a) for the Mississippi School of the Arts, One Million
557 Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars
558 (\$1,350,537.00) shall be paid to the school no later than July 10,
559 2023, and One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred
560 Thirty-eight Dollars (\$1,350,538.00) shall be paid no later than
561 January 10, 2024. All funds appropriated from Section 4(a) for the
562 Mississippi School of the Arts shall be paid to the school each
563 month within ten (10) working days after such amount was received
564 by the Department of Education. It is the intention of the



565 Legislature that the State Board of Education shall not reduce the
566 appropriated amounts provided in this act for the Mississippi
567 School of the Arts and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and
568 Science.

569 **SECTION 39.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) and
570 Section 2(b), Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is
571 provided for career and technical grants to schools for qualified
572 students as authorized by Section 37-153-15, Mississippi Code of
573 1972.

574 **SECTION 40.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the
575 following amounts shall be available to the Schools for the Blind
576 and Deaf: Ten Million Sixty-two Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-three
577 Dollars (\$10,062,953.00) from Section 1(a), One Million Three
578 Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Thirty-seven Dollars (\$1,357,037.00)
579 from Section 4(a), and Two Million Three Hundred Nine Thousand
580 Seven Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$2,309,725.00) from Section
581 2(a).

582 **SECTION 41.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
583 not to exceed Four Million Six Hundred Eighty Thousand Four
584 Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$4,680,414.00) is authorized to fully
585 fund the contract between the Department of Education and the
586 Research & Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to fund
587 career and technical curricula, services to secondary schools and
588 career and technical assessments.



589 **SECTION 42.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 (a) to the
590 State Board of Education, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00)
591 is provided for the expenditure of funds from the Educational
592 Facilities Revolving Loan Fund, which was created in Section
593 37-47-24, Mississippi Code of 1972. These funds are provided for
594 the purpose of improving educational facilities in the State of
595 Mississippi by assisting public schools in procuring funds for
596 making certain capital improvements.

597 **SECTION 43.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (b) to the
598 State Board of Education, Five Hundred Sixty-two Thousand Nine
599 Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$562,999.00) is provided for
600 secondary career and technical education instructors teaching at
601 post-secondary institutions.

602 **SECTION 44.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (a), an
603 amount not to exceed Two Hundred Forty Million Three Hundred
604 Ninety-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$240,397,960.00)
605 shall be allocated for the purpose of providing funds to each
606 public school district in the state as prescribed in the Minimum
607 Salary Schedules in Section 37-19-7 and 37-21-7, Mississippi Code
608 of 1972, for the 2023-2024 school year, and school years
609 thereafter.

610 **SECTION 45.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (a), an
611 amount not to exceed Twenty-two Million Five Hundred Nine Thousand
612 Dollars (\$22,509,000.00) shall be allocated for the purpose of
613 providing funds to each public school district in the state as



614 prescribed in the Minimum Salary Schedule in Section 37-21-7,
615 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the 2023-2024 school year, and
616 school years thereafter.

617 **SECTION 46.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
618 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
619 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Department of
620 Education for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of
621 Education Enhancement Fund, as authorized in House Bill 1600, 2022
622 Regular Session to provide upgrades for the Mississippi Student
623 Information System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and
624 ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 3,200,000.00.

625 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
626 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
627 section as of June 30, 2023, shall not exceed the unexpended
628 balance of the funds remaining from the amount authorized for the
629 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
630 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

631 **SECTION 47.** With the funds appropriated herein, the
632 Mississippi Department of Education is authorized to make payment
633 for expenses incurred during Fiscal Year 2019 to Canon Solutions
634 America in an amount not to exceed Thirty-five Thousand Eight
635 Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars (\$35,848.00).

636 **SECTION 48.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
637 eligible professional school counselor employee who meets the year
638 of teaching experience requirements under Section 37-151-5(m),



639 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be considered having a year of
640 experience for purposes of the annual experience salary increment.

641 **SECTION 49.** The money appropriated in this act shall be paid
642 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or
643 funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State
644 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his
645 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or
646 officers in the manner provided by law.

647 **SECTION 50.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
648 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2023.

