

By: Representatives Read, Bennett, Barton,
Boyd, Busby, Clark, Clarke, Currie, Eure,
Haney, Jackson, Sanford, Watson, Young

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1614

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL
3 TELEVISION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the
8 expenses of the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
10 June 30, 2024.....\$ 4,187,293.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in
13 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Authority for
14 Educational Television which is comprised of special source funds
15 collected by or otherwise available to the Authority, for the
16 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Authority for the fiscal
17 year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....
18\$ 8,157,752.00.



19 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
20 Section 1 and Section 2, the following positions are authorized:

21 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

22 Permanent:	Full Time.....	73
23 Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	7

24 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
25 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
26 Services for Fiscal Year 2025 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2024 funds
27 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
28 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2024 budget by the Mississippi
29 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
30 personal services appropriation, which shall be published by the
31 State Personnel Board. Additionally, the State Personnel Board
32 shall determine and publish the projected annualized payroll costs
33 based on current employees. It shall be the responsibility of the
34 agency head to ensure that actual personnel expenditures for
35 Fiscal Year 2024 do not exceed the data provided by the
36 Legislative Budget Office. If the agency's Fiscal Year 2024
37 projected cost exceeds the annualized costs, no salary actions
38 shall be processed by the State Personnel Board with the exception
39 of new hires that are determined to be essential for the agency.

40 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
41 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or
42 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
43 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written



44 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
45 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
46 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
47 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
48 appropriated level.

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

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

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

63 **SECTION 4.** Funds appropriated herein shall first be used for
64 the continuation of a full and complete broadcast schedule of
65 educational and instructional, professional growth, and public
66 service programs, with the production of new films and programs to
67 be secondary thereto.



68 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
69 Mississippi Authority for Educational Television shall maintain
70 complete accounting and personnel records related to the
71 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such
72 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as
73 maintained for Fiscal Year 2023. It is further the intention of
74 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year
75 2025 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
76 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level
77 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request
78 process.

79 **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
80 Section 2, Two Million One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Nine Hundred
81 Sixty-six Dollars (\$2,118,966.00) shall be derived from the
82 Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75
83 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

84 **SECTION 7.** No part of the funds appropriated herein shall be
85 transferred to, expended by, or used, directly or indirectly, for
86 the benefit of any public relations, publicity or publication
87 activities of any other state agency, department or officer, nor
88 shall any personnel paid or equipment purchased with funds
89 appropriated hereby be transferred or assigned to any other state
90 agency, department or officer for public relations, publicity or
91 publication activities of such office.



92 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
 93 Mississippi Authority for Educational Television shall have the
 94 authority to expend funds in the Capital Equipment Replacement
 95 Revolving Fund, in accordance with Section 37-63-17, Mississippi
 96 Code of 1972, for the purpose of purchasing technical equipment
 97 for operating the educational radio and television facilities.

98 **SECTION 9.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
 99 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
 100 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized
 101 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the
 102 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,
 103 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted
 104 performance measures provided below:

	FY2024
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
Content Operations	
Number of Locally Produced TV Programs	150
Number of Locally Produced Radio Programs	1,092
Number of Monthly Average Number of Web Site Users	4,500
Number of New Programs Produced and Broadcast Related to Fit to Eat Programming	13
Percent Increase in Visitors Viewing the Healthy Living Related Items on MPB	



117	Site	31.00
118	Percent of Radio Broadcasts & TV Alerts	
119	During Times of Emergency	100.00
120	Education Services	
121	Percent Increase in Users Using MPB	
122	Education Online Resources for Pre-K	
123	Children and Families	15.00
124	Number of Students Served by the Digital	
125	Education Network (DEN) Classroom	2,000
126	Number of School Districts Participating	
127	in the DEN Classroom	30
128	Number of Teachers Taking e-Learning Courses	1,200
129	Number of Teacher Continuing Education	
130	Units (CEUs) Provided by e-Learning	
131	Courses Offered	400
132	Percent Increase of Visitors to the MPB	
133	Education Website	15.00
134	Number of Rotary Clubs Sponsoring with MPB	20
135	Number of Early Childhood Educators	
136	Attending MPB Resource Workshops	
137	Involving PBS and MPB Programs/Content	250
138	Number of Childcare Centers Using PBS	
139	Content	30
140	Number of Parents Participating in	
141	Parents Are Teachers Too (PATT)	



142	Initiative	300
143	Technical Services	
144	Number of Transmitters On Air	8
145	On-Air Reliability	99.95
146	Number of IT Help Desk Orders Filled	600
147	Administration	
148	Number of Community Engagements/Outreach	
149	Events Including Virtual Engagements	125
150	Number of State Agency Partners	40
151	New Grant Dollars Acquired	75,000.00

152 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
153 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
154 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
155 Committee for Fiscal Year 2025.

156 **SECTION 10.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
157 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
158 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
159 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
160 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
161 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
162 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
163 made without competitive bids.

164 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that an
165 amount equal to One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) per square foot



166 shall be paid to the Executive Office of the State Board of
167 Institutions of Higher Learning to defray utility costs.

168 **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
169 Authority for Educational Television may fund a program to focus
170 on the manufacturing industry in Mississippi.

171 **SECTION 13.** Mississippi Authority for Educational Television
172 is authorized to accept and expend any grant, donation, or
173 contribution from any individual, public, or private organization,
174 or government entity for purposes of defraying the operational
175 costs of the department. Such grants, donations or contributions
176 shall be received and expended under the rules and regulations of
177 the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner
178 consistent with the escalation of federal funds not to exceed Two
179 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

180 **SECTION 14.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
181 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
182 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Educational
183 Television Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the
184 expenditure of Education Enhancement Funds as authorized in House
185 Bill No. 1601, 2022 Regular Session for Digitalization of 49 Years
186 of Educational Content and Mississippi History for the fiscal year
187 beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.....
188\$ 700,000.00.

189 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
190 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this



191 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
192 remaining as of June 30, 2023 from the amount authorized for the
193 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
194 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

195 **SECTION 15.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
196 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
197 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Educational
198 Television Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the
199 expenditure of Education Enhancement Funds as authorized in House
200 Bill No. 1601, 2022 Regular Session to produce a documentary about
201 Medgar Evers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and
202 ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 349,028.00.

203 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
204 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
205 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
206 remaining as of June 30, 2023 from the amount authorized for the
207 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
208 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

209 **SECTION 16.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
210 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
211 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
212 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
213 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
214 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.



215 **SECTION 17.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
216 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2023.

