

Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1613

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

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

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.....\$ 103,263,196.00.

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\$ 2,576,380,577.00.

29 TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
30 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,779,725,467.00.

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 School 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: 300

103 Time-Limited: 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

283 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State

284 Department of Education:

285 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

286 Permanent: 48

287 Time-Limited: 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	Arts for All Mississippi.....	\$	40,000.00.
368	Total.....	\$	9,802,500.00.

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

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

385 Of the funds appropriated in this section, an amount not to
386 exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be distributed to

387 the Mississippi State University Center for Cyber Education and
388 used for computer science programs development and teacher
389 training for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools
390 for the purpose of developing K-12 computer science curricula,
391 including both academic and career and technical education
392 programs, developing and delivering teacher training, and working
393 with the State Board of Education and Institutions of Higher
394 Learning in the state to develop teacher preparation programs for
395 computer science endorsements. All programs must meet the 2018
396 Mississippi Computer Science Standards and/or Mississippi College
397 and Career Standards.

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

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

412 manner that those interest payments were distributed during Fiscal
413 Year 1985.

414 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds provided in this act for the
415 purpose of funding the Mississippi Adequate Education Program as
416 determined under Section 37-151-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, the
417 base student cost in Fiscal Year 2024 shall be Seven Thousand One
418 Hundred Twenty-four Dollars and Fifty-one Cents (\$7,124.51).

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

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

435 **SECTION 21.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) to the
436 State Board of Education, not less than Twenty-three Million
437 Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$23,080,000.00) shall be used for

438 National Board Certification. Of this amount, Seven Hundred
439 Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be used for the World Class
440 Teacher Program providing instruction and assistance to teachers
441 seeking National Board Certification.

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

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

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

464 employed as school bus drivers by the school districts. It is the
465 intention of the Legislature that no state funds shall be used for
466 this purpose.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

510 **SECTION 31.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
511 Mississippi Department of Education may loan any general or
512 special source fund amount, not to exceed Five Million Dollars
513 (\$5,000,000.00), to any school district for the purpose of
514 providing funds to school districts through the Emergency
515 Assistance Fund as outlined in Section 37-17-6, Mississippi Code

516 of 1972, during the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
517 June 30, 2024. The school districts receiving these loans shall
518 repay the Mississippi Department of Education the amount of the
519 loan on or before June 30, 2024.

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

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

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

532 **SECTION 35.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
533 Section 2(a), Twenty-four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000.00) is
534 provided for an Early Childhood Education Initiative program. The
535 funding shall be provided to early learning collaboratives in
536 Fiscal Year 2024 as follows: no less than Two Thousand Five
537 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per student in a full-day program and
538 no less than One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)
539 per student in a half-day program. Funds must be matched as
540 provided by Section 37-21-51, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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

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

548 **SECTION 38.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
549 Million Seven Hundred One Thousand Seventy-five Dollars
550 (\$2,701,075.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School of the
551 Arts and Three Million Nine Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Five
552 Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$3,957,575.00) shall be used for the
553 Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. It is the
554 intention of the Legislature that of the funds appropriated in
555 Section 1(a) for the Mississippi School of the Arts, One Million
556 Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars
557 (\$1,350,537.00) shall be paid to the school no later than July 10,
558 2023, and One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred
559 Thirty-eight Dollars (\$1,350,538.00) shall be paid no later than
560 January 10, 2024. All funds appropriated from Section 4(a) for the
561 Mississippi School of the Arts shall be paid to the school each
562 month within ten (10) working days after such amount was received
563 by the Department of Education. It is the intention of the
564 Legislature that the State Board of Education shall not reduce the
565 appropriated amounts provided in this act for the Mississippi

566 School of the Arts and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and
567 Science.

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

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

581 **SECTION 41.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
582 not to exceed Four Million One Hundred Seventy-one Thousand Three
583 Hundred One Dollars (\$4,171,301.00) is authorized to fully fund
584 the contract between the Department of Education and the Research
585 & Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to fund career
586 and technical curricula, services to secondary schools and career
587 and technical assessments.

588 **SECTION 42.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 (a) to the
589 State Board of Education, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00)
590 is provided for the expenditure of funds from the Educational
591 Facilities Revolving Loan Fund, which was created in Section

592 37-47-24, Mississippi Code of 1972. These funds are provided for
593 the purpose of improving educational facilities in the State of
594 Mississippi by assisting public schools in procuring funds for
595 making certain capital improvements.

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

601 **SECTION 44.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
602 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
603 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated for the Department of
604 Education for the purpose of reauthorizing the expenditure of
605 Education Enhancement Fund, as authorized in House Bill 1600, 2022
606 Regular Session to provide upgrades for the Mississippi Student
607 Information System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and
608 ending June 30, 2024.....\$ 3,200,000.00.

609 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
610 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
611 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
612 remaining as of June 30, 2023, from the amount authorized for the
613 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
614 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

615 **SECTION 45.** With the funds appropriated herein, the
616 Mississippi Department of Education is authorized to make payment
617 for expenses incurred during Fiscal Year 2019 to Canon Solutions

618 America in an amount not to exceed Thirty-five Thousand Eight
619 Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars (\$35,848.00).

620 **SECTION 46.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
621 eligible professional school counselor employee who meets the year
622 of teaching experience requirements under Section 37-151-5(m),
623 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be considered having a year of
624 experience for purposes of the annual experience salary increment.

625 **SECTION 47.** The money appropriated in this act shall be paid
626 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or
627 funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State
628 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his
629 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or
630 officers in the manner provided by law.

631 **SECTION 48.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
632 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed June 29, 2023.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

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.

SS15\HB1613A.J

Eugene S. Clarke
Secretary of the Senate