

By: Representatives Oliver, Read, Arnold,
Boyd (19th), Hines, Mangold, Massengill,
Roberson, Scoggin

To: Appropriations E;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1823
(As Sent to Governor)

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 2025.

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, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025,
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.....\$ 128,471,455.00.

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\$ 86,549,969.00.

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.....\$ 15,223,869.00.

26 (d) To the State Board of Education for defraying the
27 expenses of the Mississippi Student Funding Formula.....
28\$ 2,690,627,163.00.

29 TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
30 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,920,872,456.00.

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, 2024, and ending
36 June 30, 2025, 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.....\$ 1,995,418,401.00.

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\$ 22,718,189.00.



45 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
46 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Student Funding Formula.
47\$ 268,025,562.00.

48 TOTAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
49 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,286,162,152.00.

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.....\$ 9,500,000.00
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.....	\$ 1,131,000.00
78	Mississippi School for Fine Arts.	\$ 927,632.00
79	Early Learning Collaboratives.....	\$ 21,210,526.00
80	Other Early Learning Programs.....	\$ 13,000,000.00
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.....	\$ 1,557,037.00
90	TOTAL.....	\$ 113,884,109.00
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 Student Funding Formula.....
96\$ 268,025,562.00.

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: 329
103 Time-Limited: 124

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 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds
107 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
108 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
109 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
110 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board
111 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may
112 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year
113 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024
114 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that
115 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount
116 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments
117 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current
118 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee



119 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the
120 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

121 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
122 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
123 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
124 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do
125 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If
126 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the
127 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the
128 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
129 essential for the agency.

130 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
131 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
132 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
133 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
134 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
135 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
136 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
137 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
138 appropriated level.

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



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

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

	FY2025
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
158 Special Education	
159 Number of Special Education Teachers (FTE)	5,963
160 Number of Gifted Education Teachers	730
161 Percent Increase of Children with	
162 Disabilities in General Education Early	
163 Childhood Programs while Decreasing the	
164 Percent in Self-Contained Special	
165 Education Early Childhood Classrooms	76.00
166 General Administration	
167 Total Dollars Spent on General	



168	Administration	19,250,220.00
169	Percent of Total Budget Spent on General	
170	Administration	15.70
171	Create a Public-Facing Data System for	
172	All Stakeholders	100.00
173	Create a User-Friendly Website for the	
174	Public and School Districts to Access	
175	Data to Make Decisions	100.00
176	Create a Roadmap to Improve the	
177	Mississippi Student Information System	100.00
178	Number of Research Results Published to	
179	Support Improved Student Outcomes and	
180	Teacher Effectiveness	9
181	Graduation & Career Readiness	
182	Percent Increase of Students Graduating	
183	from High School Ready for College or	
184	Career in Each Subgroup	100.00
185	Early Childhood Education	
186	Percent Increase of Kindergarten	
187	Students Achieving End-Of-Year Target	
188	Score on Kindergarten Readiness	
189	Post-Test	69.74
190	Percent Increase of Early Learning	
191	Collaborative Sites Meeting Required	
192	Rate of Readiness	95.95



193	Number of Students Enrolled in Title I	
194	or Locally Funded Pre-K Classes	8,778
195	Teacher Tng & Professional Dev	
196	Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced	
197	and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools	
198	That Are High Poverty	31.00
199	Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced	
200	and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools	
201	That Are High Minority	35.00
202	Percent Increase of Districts Reporting	
203	Professional Growth System (PGS) Ratings	
204	for Teachers and Leaders	96.00
205	Percent Increase of Teacher Candidates	
206	Passing Licensure Exams on the First	
207	Attempt	45.00
208	Increase the Number of Licensed, Diverse	
209	Teachers and Leaders	35.00
210	Elementary Education	
211	Percent Increase of Students who Pass	
212	the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment at the	
213	First Administration in Each Subgroup	80.00
214	Secondary Education	
215	Increase the Number of Students	
216	Participating in and Passing Advanced	
217	Placement (AP), International	



218	Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge Exams	
219	in Each Subgroup	37.00
220	Percent Increase of Students Ready for	
221	College as Measured by Meeting ACT	
222	Benchmarks in Each Content Area (Public	
223	School Class Data, Grade 11)	11.00
224	Assessment & Development	
225	Increase the Percent of Students	
226	Proficient (Levels 4-5) on Statewide	
227	Assessments (Grades 3-8 & High School	
228	Composite) in Each Subgroup	53.00
229	Decrease the Percent of Students Scoring	
230	Levels 1-3 on Statewide Assessments in	
231	Each Subgroup	47.00
232	Increase Percent of Pre-Kindergarten	
233	Students in Public Schools Attaining	
234	Kindergarten Readiness on the Pre-K	
235	End-Of-Year Assessment	72.00
236	School Performance	
237	Percent of Schools Rated "C" or Higher	85.00
238	Percent of Districts Rated "C" or Higher	85.00
239	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	
240	on Statewide ELA Assessments in Each	
241	Subgroup	70.00
242	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	



243	on Statewide Math Assessments in Each	
244	Subgroup	75.00
245	Percent of Students Participating in	
246	Dual Credit in Each Subgroup	60.00
247	Percent of Students Passing Dual Credit	
248	in Each Subgroup	98.00
249	Increase the Growth of D and F Districts	
250	Demonstrating Growth, by Improving the	
251	Letter Grade and/or Increasing the	
252	Number of Points within a Letter Grade	80.00
253	Increase the Growth of D and F Schools	
254	by Improving the Letter Grade and/or	
255	Increasing the Number of Points within a	
256	Letter Grade	80.00
257	Increase the Growth of Districts of	
258	Transformation by Improving the Letter	
259	Grade and/or Increasing the Number of	
260	Points within a Letter Grade	100.00
261	Increase the Growth of Schools Under	
262	Districts of Transformation by Improving	
263	the Letter Grade and/or Increasing the	
264	Number of Points within a Letter Grade	100.00
265	Decrease the Number of High Schools	
266	Rated D or F	40.00



267 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets
268 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the
269 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget
270 Committee for Fiscal Year 2026.

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

279 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, funds in
280 the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall come from
281 income derived from the principal of the Education Improvement
282 Trust Fund created by Section 206A, Mississippi Constitution of
283 1890, and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be used for
284 the School for Math and Science.

285 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
286 this act, the following positions are authorized for the
287 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State
288 Department of Education:

289 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

290 Permanent: 48

291 Time-Limited: 5



292 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
293 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
294 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds
295 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
296 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
297 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
298 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board
299 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may
300 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year
301 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024
302 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that
303 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount
304 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments
305 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current
306 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee
307 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the
308 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

309 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
310 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
311 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
312 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do
313 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If
314 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the
315 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the



316 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
317 essential for the agency.

318 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
319 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
320 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
321 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
322 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
323 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
324 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
325 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
326 appropriated level.

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

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

335 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
336 not to exceed One Million Twenty-three Thousand Five Hundred
337 Seventy-four Dollars (\$1,023,574.00) is authorized for the support
338 of vocational and technical education programs as authorized in
339 Section 37-31-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, for a period in excess
340 of ten (10) months in a calendar year.



341 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
342 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State
343 Department of Education shall, with the funds appropriated in
344 Section 1, transfer no more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars
345 (\$75,000.00) to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation
346 Commission for the purpose of providing matching funds to purchase
347 soil conservation equipment.

348 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, no more
349 than One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) is
350 provided for the purpose of supporting the Future Farmers of
351 America Center.

352 **SECTION 13.** The State Department of Education shall transfer
353 the designated amounts to the appropriate entities, which shall
354 assume full responsibility for the expenditure of these funds in
355 accordance with state laws and accept all responsibility for any
356 improper expenditure, for the following:

357	Detention Centers.....	\$	3,000,000.00.
358	Dyslexia Program.....	\$	225,000.00.
359	Amplify Data Coaching.....	\$	800,000.00.
360	Magnolia Speech School.....	\$	1,000,000.00.
361	Sight Savers.....	\$	375,000.00.
362	Teach for America.....	\$	860,000.00.
363	Teacher Corp and Principal Corp.....	\$	300,000.00.
364	Vision Screening Research.....	\$	225,000.00.
365	Lighthouse Academy for Dyslexia.....	\$	200,000,00.



366	Algebra Nation.....	\$	1,100,000.00.
367	Mississippi Construction Education Program.....	\$	212,500.00.
368	T. K. Martin Center.....	\$	100,000.00.
369	JumpStart Act.....	\$	250,000.00.
370	Mastery Prep.....	\$	200,000.00.
371	Arts for All Mississippi.....	\$	40,000.00.
372	TOTAL.....	\$	8,887,500.00.

373 **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that of
374 the funds provided for Other Early Learning Programs in Section
375 4(a), Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) is included for
376 the Mississippi Department of Education to provide grant
377 opportunities for Other Early Learning Programs through public
378 schools including other public school preschool programs not
379 participating in Early Learning Collaboratives.

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

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



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

402 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2(a) of
403 this act, Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000.00), or so
404 much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State
405 Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in
406 Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a
407 manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. Of these funds,
408 Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is provided for
409 program and equipment upgrades at the Mississippi Elementary (ME)
410 STEM and STEAM programs from the Career and Technical Education
411 Division of the State Department of Education. Additionally, Fifty
412 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) is provided for the Mississippi
413 Future Farmers of America Center.

414 **SECTION 17.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
415 computer science courses may be taught by certified teacher or for



416 elementary level classes, computer science courses may be taught
417 by teachers who are trained by the district in computer science
418 instruction.

419 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the sum
420 of Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-one Dollars (\$62,191.00),
421 which is the aggregate sum that the school districts in the
422 Chickasaw Cession receive annually from interest payments from the
423 Chickasaw School Fund under Section 212, Mississippi Constitution
424 of 1890, shall be deducted from the allocations to the school
425 districts as provided in Section 29-3-137, Mississippi Code of
426 1972, and shall be distributed among the school districts in the
427 Chickasaw Cession by the State Department of Education in the
428 manner that those interest payments were distributed during Fiscal
429 Year 1985.

430 **SECTION 19.** Of the funds provided in this act for the
431 purpose of funding the Mississippi Student Funding Formula, the
432 Student Base Amount in Fiscal Year 2025 shall be Six Thousand Six
433 Hundred Ninety-five Dollars and Thirty-four Cents (\$6,695.34).

434 **SECTION 20.** With the funds provided in this act, it is the
435 intention of the Legislature that School Attendance Officers and
436 academic teachers at the Mississippi School for the Deaf and the
437 Mississippi School for the Blind shall receive their annual
438 increment.

439 **SECTION 21.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
440 State Board of Education shall maintain complete accounting and



441 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
442 appropriated in this act and that those records shall be in the
443 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
444 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
445 budget requests for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to the
446 Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail
447 comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the
448 Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process for each agency and
449 institution appropriated funds within the provisions of this act.

450 **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) to the
451 State Board of Education, not less than Twenty-three Million
452 Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$23,080,000.00) shall be used for
453 National Board Certification. Of this amount, Seven Hundred
454 Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be used for the World Class
455 Teacher Program providing instruction and assistance to teachers
456 seeking National Board Certification.

457 **SECTION 23.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and
458 Section 4(a) not less than Seventeen Million Five Hundred
459 Fifty-eight Thousand Dollars (\$17,558,000.00) shall be used for
460 the Educable Child Program. It is the intention of the
461 Legislature that the State Board of Education shall allocate
462 funding for the Educable Child Program based upon a recalculated
463 formula in a manner to include only those billable days funded
464 through appropriation of state funds and not District funds. It
465 is the intent of the Legislature that the Educable Child funds



466 shall be exempt from budget cuts made to the Department of
467 Education by the Legislature and/or the Office of the Governor.

468 **SECTION 24.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
469 Section 4(a), not less than Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00)
470 shall be used for the Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program.
471 It is the intent of the Legislature that the Education Scholarship
472 Account (ESA) funds shall not be reduced by the State Department
473 of Education and/or the Office of the Governor.

474 **SECTION 25.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a),
475 Twelve Million Five Hundred Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty
476 Dollars (\$12,513,420.00) is provided to fund the health insurance
477 premium increase for all public school employees.

478 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) of
479 this act, Eight Million Four Hundred Twenty-seven Thousand Six
480 Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$8,427,614.00) is provided to fund a
481 one-half (1/2) percent increase in the employer portion of the
482 Public Employees' Retirement System for all eligible public school
483 employees.

484 **SECTION 27.** The public school districts of the state are
485 authorized at their discretion to pay with local funds one hundred
486 percent (100%) of the cost of the health insurance premiums of the
487 State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan for all retired
488 members of the Public Employees' Retirement System who are
489 employed as school bus drivers by the school districts. It is the



490 intention of the Legislature that no state funds shall be used for
491 this purpose.

492 **SECTION 28.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
493 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
494 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
495 stated in those received bids are equal with respect to price,
496 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
497 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
498 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
499 made without competitive bids.

500 **SECTION 29.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, not less
501 than Six Million Four Hundred Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred
502 Ninety-eight Dollars (\$6,414,898.00) shall be used for the
503 Compulsory School Attendance Office and School Attendance
504 Officers.

505 **SECTION 30.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the
506 intention of the Legislature that Three Million Sixty Thousand
507 Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) shall be used for the Mary
508 Kirkpatrick-Mary Sprayberry Public School Nurse Program. The
509 amount of Three Million Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) is
510 provided from the Department of Health.

511 **SECTION 31.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
512 State Board of Education shall charge a fee for room and board for
513 students who enroll in the Mississippi School for Mathematics and
514 Science and the Mississippi School of Arts. Such fees will be



515 waived for any student enrolled in the State Children's Health
516 Insurance Program. The amount of such fees shall be Five Hundred
517 Dollars (\$500.00) for each semester.

518 **SECTION 32.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
519 eligible employee who meets the National Board requirements under
520 Section 37-19-7(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be paid the
521 full supplement and that such supplement shall be included on a
522 prorated basis in the employee's monthly paycheck.

523 **SECTION 33.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
524 Mississippi Department of Education may loan any general or
525 special source fund amount, not to exceed Five Million Dollars
526 (\$5,000,000.00), to any school district for the purpose of
527 providing funds to school districts through the Emergency
528 Assistance Fund as outlined in Section 37-17-6, Mississippi Code
529 of 1972, during the period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
530 June 30, 2025. The school districts receiving these loans shall
531 repay the Mississippi Department of Education the amount of the
532 loan on or before June 30, 2025.

533 **SECTION 34.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Seven
534 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be transferred to the
535 Board of Health no later than December 31, 2024.

536 **SECTION 35.** Any school district receiving funds through Save
537 the Children may provide a ten percent (10%) match from local
538 funds for implementation of the program.



539 **SECTION 36.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
540 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is provided for the Mississippi
541 Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant
542 program. A portion of these funds not to exceed one percent (1%)
543 may be used for training and administrative costs related to
544 oversight and auditing of the program.

545 **SECTION 37.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
546 Section 2(a), Twenty-nine Million Dollars (\$29,000,000.00) is
547 provided for an Early Childhood Education Initiative program. The
548 funding shall be provided to early learning collaboratives in
549 Fiscal Year 2025 as follows: no less than Two Thousand Five
550 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per student in a full-day program and
551 no less than One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)
552 per student in a half-day program. Funds must be matched as
553 provided by Section 37-21-51, Mississippi Code of 1972.

554 **SECTION 38.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
555 Section 4(a), Fifteen Million Ninety-four Thousand Five Hundred
556 Dollars (\$15,094,500.00) shall be used for the Literacy Initiative
557 and Assessment and monitoring and evaluating the adoption and
558 implementation of high-quality instructional materials that have
559 been reviewed through the approved state process and distributed
560 through regional textbook depository as outlined in Section
561 37-43-23, Mississippi Code of 1972.



562 **SECTION 39.** Of the funds appropriated herein, funding is
563 provided for the ACT test, which is the college readiness portion
564 of the state accountability model.

565 **SECTION 40.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
566 Million Seven Hundred Thirty-four Thousand Sixty-four Dollars
567 (\$2,734,064.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School of the
568 Arts and Four Million Ten Thousand Two Hundred Ten Dollars
569 (\$4,010,210.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School for
570 Mathematics and Science. It is the intention of the Legislature
571 that of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) for the Mississippi
572 School of the Arts, One Million Three Hundred Sixty-seven Thousand
573 Thirty-two Dollars (\$1,367,032.00) shall be paid to the school no
574 later than July 10, 2024, and One Million Three Hundred
575 Sixty-seven Thousand Thirty-two Dollars (\$1,367,032.00) shall be
576 paid no later than January 10, 2025. All funds appropriated from
577 Section 4(a) for the Mississippi School of the Arts shall be paid
578 to the school each month within ten (10) working days after such
579 amount was received by the Department of Education. It is the
580 intention of the Legislature that the State Board of Education
581 shall not reduce the appropriated amounts provided in this act for
582 the Mississippi School of the Arts and the Mississippi School for
583 Mathematics and Science.

584 **SECTION 41.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) and
585 Section 2(b), Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is
586 provided for career and technical grants to schools for qualified



587 students as authorized by Section 37-153-15, Mississippi Code of
588 1972.

589 **SECTION 42.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the
590 following amounts shall be available to the Schools for the Blind
591 and Deaf: Ten Million Four Hundred Eighty-four Thousand Three
592 Hundred Twenty-three Dollars (\$10,484,323.00) from Section 1(a),
593 One Million Five Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Thirty-seven Dollars
594 (\$1,557,037.00) from Section 4(a), and Two Million Four Hundred
595 Fifty-nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
596 (\$2,459,725.00) from Section 2(a).

597 **SECTION 43.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) of this
598 act, One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000.00) is
599 provided for the continuation of a school mapping program.

600 **SECTION 44.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
601 not to exceed Four Million One Hundred Seventy-one Thousand Three
602 Hundred One Dollars (\$4,171,301.00) is authorized to fully fund
603 the contract between the Department of Education and the Research
604 & Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to fund career
605 and technical curricula, services to secondary schools and career
606 and technical assessments.

607 **SECTION 45.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) to the
608 State Board of Education, Five Hundred Sixty-two Thousand Nine
609 Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$562,999.00) is provided for
610 secondary career and technical education instructors teaching at
611 post-secondary institutions.



612 **SECTION 46.** In addition to all other funds appropriated
613 herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,
614 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to
615 the credit of the Charter School Authorizer Board for operational
616 expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
617 June 30, 2025.....\$ 1,400,000.00.

618 **SECTION 47.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b), One
619 Million Four Hundred Thirty-two Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-two
620 Dollars (\$1,432,872.00) shall be provided for new Career and
621 Technical Education Programs as determined by the Division of
622 Vocational and Technical Education at the Mississippi Department
623 of Education. Of the funds appropriated to the department for
624 these programs, no amount shall be expended by the department to
625 defray administrative costs.

626 **SECTION 48.** The Mississippi Department of Education shall
627 provide an annual report detailing the funding of industry
628 certifications and the anticipated industry certifications that
629 will be achieved in the upcoming fiscal year to the Legislative
630 Budget Office and the Legislature no later than January 15, 2025.

631 **SECTION 49.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2(a) of
632 this act, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
633 (\$1,500,000.00), or so much thereof, shall be derived out of any
634 money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense
635 Fund, as created in Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972,
636 and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office.



637 These funds are provided for repairs and renovations at the
638 Mississippi School for Math and Science.

639 **SECTION 50.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2(a) of
640 this act, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or so much
641 thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury
642 to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section
643 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as
644 determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided as
645 initial operational funding for The Deer Creek Promise Community.

646 **SECTION 51.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
647 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
648 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Mississippi
649 Department of Education for the purpose of reauthorizing the
650 expenditure of Education Enhancement Funds as authorized in House
651 Bill No. 1613, 2023 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning
652 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 12,915,973.00.

653 This reappropriation is made for the purpose of reauthorizing
654 the expenditure of funds as allocated herein:

- 655 (a) Instructional Materials.....\$ 2,540,973.00.
- 656 (b) Early Learning Collaboratives.....\$ 3,000,000.00.
- 657 (c) Other Early Learning Programs.....\$ 7,375,000.00.

658 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
659 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
660 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
661 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the



662 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
663 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

664 **SECTION 52.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
665 eligible professional school counselor employee who meets the year
666 of teaching experience requirements under Section 37-151-5(m),
667 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be considered having a year of
668 experience for purposes of the annual experience salary increment.

669 **SECTION 53.** The money appropriated in this act shall be paid
670 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or
671 funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State
672 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his
673 warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or
674 officers in the manner provided by law.

675 **SECTION 54.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
676 and after July 1, 2024.

