REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MR. PRESIDENT:

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

H. B. No. 1806: Appropriation; Psychology, Board of.

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

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

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

- 5 The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State 6 7 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi State Board of Psychology, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the board 8 9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending 10 June 30, 2025.....\$ 161,982.00. SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of 11 12 Section 1, the following positions are authorized: 13 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT: Permanent:
- 14
- 15 Time-Limited:
- 16 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
- 17 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
- 18 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds

- 19 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
- 20 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
- 21 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
- 22 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board
- 23 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may
- 24 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year
- 25 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024
- 26 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that
- 27 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount
- 28 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments
- 29 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current
- 30 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee
- 31 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the
- 32 Mississippi State Personnel Board.
- 33 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
- 34 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
- 35 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
- 36 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do
- 37 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If
- 38 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the
- 39 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the
- 40 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
- 41 essential for the agency.
- 42 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
- 43 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or

- 44 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
- 45 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
- 46 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
- 47 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
- 48 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
- 49 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
- 50 appropriated level.
- No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be
- 52 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for
- 53 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are
- 54 withdrawn and no longer available.
- None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in
- 56 violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A
- 57 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as
- 58 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.
- 59 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
- 60 Mississippi State Board of Psychology shall maintain complete
- 61 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all
- 62 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be
- 63 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal
- 64 Year 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that
- 65 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be
- 66 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format
- 67 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail
- 68 provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

- 69 SECTION 4. It is the intention of the Legislature that 70 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the 71 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things 72 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price, 73 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind 74 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to 75 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are 76 made without competitive bids.
- SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the
 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
 actions contrary to this provision.
- SECTION 6. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.
- 90 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, 91 Twenty-six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000.00) is provided for the 92 administrative support of the Mississippi Autism Board as 93 prescribed by Section 73-75-11, Mississippi Code of 1972.

94 SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from 95 and after July 1, 2024.

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

AN ACT APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE 2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Deweese Hopson

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Read Parker

X (SIGNED) X (SIGNED) Creekmore IV McLendon