

20 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
21 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal
22 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds
23 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are
24 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi
25 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's
26 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board
27 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may
28 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year
29 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024
30 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that
31 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount
32 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments
33 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current
34 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee
35 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the
36 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

37 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and
38 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current
39 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to
40 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do
41 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If
42 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the
43 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the



44 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be
45 essential for the agency.

46 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
47 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
48 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
49 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
50 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
51 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
52 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions
53 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
54 appropriated level.

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58 withdrawn and no longer available.

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

63 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, Two
64 Hundred Fifty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$259,000.00) is provided for
65 the Home Inspector Board as created in SB 2788, Regular Session
66 2024.

67 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
68 Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification



69 Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records
70 related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this
71 act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of
72 detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2024. It is further the
73 intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for
74 Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative
75 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the
76 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2025
77 budget request process.

78 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
79 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
80 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
81 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
82 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
83 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
84 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
85 made without competitive bids.

86 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
87 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
88 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
89 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
90 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
91 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
92 actions contrary to this provision.



93 **SECTION 7.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
94 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
95 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
96 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
97 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
98 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

99 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
100 and after July 1, 2024.

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

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE
3 MISSISSIPPI REAL ESTATE APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION
4 BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Deweese

X (SIGNED)
Hopson

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Michel

X (SIGNED)
Creekmore IV

X (SIGNED)
Hickman

