

## 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. 1808: Appropriation: Real Estate Commission.

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           **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury  
7 to the credit of the Real Estate License Fund, for the purpose of  
8 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Real Estate Commission  
9 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending  
10 June 30, 2025.....\$           1,816,725.00.

11           **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
12 Section 1, the following positions are authorized for the  
13 Mississippi Real Estate Commission:

14           AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

15           Permanent:                   16

16           Time-Limited:                0

17           With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
18 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal



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

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



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

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

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

60 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
61 Mississippi Real Estate Commission shall maintain complete  
62 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
63 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
64 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
65 Year 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that  
66 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be  
67 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format



68 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
69 provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

70 **SECTION 4.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
71 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
72 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
73 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
74 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
75 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
76 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
77 made without competitive bids.

78 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
79 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
80 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
81 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
82 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
83 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
84 actions contrary to this provision.

85 **SECTION 6.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
86 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
87 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
88 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
89 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
90 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

91 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
92 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 COMMISSION 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

