

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Norwood,  
Hickman, Hill, Tate

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3024

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD  
3 OF EXAMINERS FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS FOR FISCAL YEAR  
4 2026.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
7 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
8 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi State Board of Examiners  
9 for Licensed Professional Counselors, for the purpose of defraying  
10 the expenses of the board for the fiscal year beginning  
11 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 378,711.00.

12 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
13 Section 1 of this act, the following positions are authorized:

14 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

15 Permanent: 2  
16 Time-Limited: 0

17 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
18 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are



19 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this  
20 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

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

25 **SECTION 3.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
26 Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional  
27 Counselors shall maintain complete accounting and personnel  
28 records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under  
29 this act and that such records shall be in the same format and  
30 level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2025. It is further  
31 the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request  
32 for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative  
33 Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the  
34 format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2026  
35 budget request process.

36 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, One  
37 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) is allocated for expenses  
38 related to updating the Licensing Management System.

39 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
40 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
41 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
42 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
43 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind



44 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
45 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
46 made without competitive bids.

47 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
48 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
49 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
50 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
51 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
52 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
53 actions contrary to this provision.

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

60 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
61 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
62 June 30, 2025.

