

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Blackwell,  
McLendon, Simmons (13th)

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3049

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE  
2 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
5 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
6 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of  
7 the Department of Finance and Administration for the fiscal year  
8 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
9 .....\$ 37,315,482.00.

10 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
11 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
12 Treasury to the credit of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred  
14 in the operation of the various offices of the department for the  
15 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
16 .....\$ 49,100,788.00.

17 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
18 this act, the following positions are authorized:



19 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20 Permanent: 298

21 Time-Limited: 1

22 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
23 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
24 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
25 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
26 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
27 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
28 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
29 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
30 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
31 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
32 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
33 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
34 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
35 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
36 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
37 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
38 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

39 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
40 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
41 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
42 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
43 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If



44 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
45 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
46 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
47 essential for the agency.

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

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

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

65 **SECTION 4.** In addition to all other sums herein  
66 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
67 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Tort  
68 Claims Trust Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of



69 defraying the expenses of the Tort Claims Board in the  
70 administration of the Tort Claims Act for the fiscal year  
71 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
72 .....\$ 6,335,286.00.

73 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
74 this act, the following positions are authorized:

75 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

76 Permanent: 4  
77 Time-Limited: 0

78 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
79 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
80 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
81 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
82 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
83 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
84 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
85 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
86 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
87 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
88 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
89 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
90 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
91 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
92 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee



93 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
94 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

95         Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
96 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
97 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
98 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
99 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
100 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
101 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
102 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
103 essential for the agency.

104         Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
105 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
106 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
107 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
108 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
109 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
110 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
111 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
112 appropriated level.

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



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

121 **SECTION 6.** In addition to all other sums herein  
122 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
123 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
124 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of  
125 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Commission on the Status  
126 of Women for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
127 June 30, 2026.....\$ 44,125.00.

128 **SECTION 7.** In addition to all other sums herein  
129 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
130 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
131 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Commission on the Status  
132 of Women for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the  
133 commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
134 June 30, 2026.....\$ 3,135.00.

135 This appropriation is made for the purpose of providing funds  
136 to defray the expense of the Mississippi Commission on the Status  
137 of Women as established pursuant to Sections 43-59-1 through  
138 43-59-14, Mississippi Code of 1972.

139 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
140 Sections 6 and 7 of this act, the following positions are  
141 authorized:



142 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

143 Permanent: 1

144 Time-Limited: 0

145 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
146 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
147 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
148 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
149 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
150 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
151 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
152 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
153 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
154 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
155 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
156 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
157 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
158 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
159 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
160 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
161 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

162 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
163 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
164 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
165 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
166 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If



167 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
168 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
169 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
170 essential for the agency.

171 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
172 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
173 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
174 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
175 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
176 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
177 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
178 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
179 appropriated level.

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

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

188 **SECTION 9.** In addition to all other sums herein  
189 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
190 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
191 Fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of State Property





192 Insurance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
193 June 30, 2026.....\$ 23,466,713.00.

194 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds herein appropriated, it is the  
195 intention of the Legislature that two (2) of the allotted  
196 Full-Time Permanent Headcount in Section 3 of this act may be used  
197 for performing related administrative duties of the State Property  
198 Insurance Program.

199 **SECTION 11.** In addition to all other sums herein  
200 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
201 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
202 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department of Finance and  
203 Administration for the purpose of providing a grant to the  
204 Mississippi Home Corporation, for the fiscal year beginning  
205 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 1,810,227.00.

206 **SECTION 12.** The funds appropriated in Section 11 of this act  
207 shall be targeted to individuals with disabilities or individuals  
208 with serious mental illnesses who:

209 (1) Are being discharged from a state psychiatric hospital  
210 after a stay of more than ninety (90) days; or, nursing facility,  
211 or intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual  
212 disabilities after a stay of more than ninety (90) days; or

213 (2) Have been discharged from a state psychiatric hospital  
214 within the last two (2) years; and

215 (a) Had multiple hospital visits in the last year due  
216 to mental illness; or



217 (b) Are known to the mental health or state-housing  
218 agency to have been arrested or incarcerated in the last year due  
219 to conduct related to mental illness; or

220 (c) Are known to the mental health or state-housing  
221 agency to have been homeless for one (1) full year or have had  
222 four (4) or more episodes of homelessness in the last three (3)  
223 years; or

224 (3) Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence  
225 and includes a subset for an individual who is exiting an  
226 institution where he or she resided for ninety (90) days or less  
227 and who resides in an emergency shelter or a place not meant for  
228 human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

229 Any funds appropriated herein to hire additional staff or  
230 employ staff shall only be used to implement this housing program.

231 **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
232 Mississippi Home Corporation shall provide an annual financial  
233 report based upon the state's fiscal year to the Attorney General,  
234 the Chairman of Senate Appropriations, the Chairman of House  
235 Appropriations, and the Legislative Budget Office.

236 **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that none  
237 of the funds appropriated under the provisions of this act for the  
238 Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC) shall be expended for the  
239 purpose of making a payment of any kind or for any purpose,  
240 directly or indirectly, to a member of the State of Mississippi



241 Legislature, state official, MHC board member, or person who has  
242 been a member of the MHC within the last year.

243         **SECTION 15.** In addition to all other sums herein  
244 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
245 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
246 Fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Broadband  
247 Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) as established  
248 in Sections 77-19-1 through 77-19-17, Mississippi Code of 1972,  
249 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending  
250 June 30, 2026.....\$           433,500.00.

251         **SECTION 16.** In addition to all other sums herein  
252 appropriated, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
253 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
254 Treasury to the credit of the Broadband Expansion and  
255 Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) as established in Sections  
256 77-19-1 through 77-19-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the  
257 purpose of defraying the expenses of the commission for the fiscal  
258 year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
259 .....\$   175,914,472.00.

260         **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
261 of Sections 15 and 16 of this act, the following positions are  
262 authorized:

263         AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:  
264             Permanent:         6  
265             Time-Limited:     0



266 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
267 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
268 Services for Fiscal Year 2027 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2026 funds  
269 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
270 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 budget by the Mississippi  
271 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
272 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
273 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
274 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
275 2026 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2025  
276 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
277 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
278 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
279 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
280 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
281 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
282 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

283 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
284 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
285 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
286 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 do  
287 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
288 the agency's Fiscal Year 2026 projected cost exceeds the  
289 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the



290 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
291 essential for the agency.

292 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
293 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
294 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
295 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
296 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
297 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
298 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
299 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
300 appropriated level.

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

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

309 **SECTION 18.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
310 Department of Finance and Administration shall maintain complete  
311 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
312 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
313 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
314 Year 2025. It is further the intention of the Legislature that



315 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2027 shall be  
316 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
317 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
318 provided during the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request process.

319       **SECTION 19.** The department is authorized to expend available  
320 funds on technology or equipment upgrades or replacements when it  
321 will generate savings through efficiency or when the savings  
322 generated from such upgrades or replacements exceed expenditures  
323 thereof.

324       **SECTION 20.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
325 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
326 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
327 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
328 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
329 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
330 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
331 made without competitive bids.

332       **SECTION 21.** The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real  
333 Property Management of the Office of General Services is hereby  
334 expressly authorized and empowered to receive, budget and expend  
335 any state, local or other source funds designated for supplemental  
336 funding of construction and/or repairs and renovation projects.  
337 The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management of  
338 the Office of General Services shall not use any of the funds  
339 authorized in this section to pay salaries. For the purposes of



340 this section, the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property  
341 Management of the Office of General Services does not have the  
342 authority to escalate from the Capital Expense Fund or the Working  
343 Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund.

344 **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
345 act, it is the intention of the Legislature that an amount not to  
346 exceed Four Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,500,000.00)  
347 is authorized to be expended for the purpose of transferring funds  
348 to the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management  
349 for the administration of projects for the repair and maintenance  
350 of state-owned buildings.

351 **SECTION 23.** A report based on expenditures incurred during  
352 the current and immediate past fiscal years shall be provided to  
353 the Legislative Budget Office each regularly scheduled legislative  
354 session. This report should reflect expenditures as a result of  
355 the operation of the Robert E. Lee Building, the Woolfolk State  
356 Office Building, the Gartin and Sillers Buildings, the Capitol  
357 Buildings, the Central High School Building, the Robert G. Clark,  
358 Jr. Building and other state buildings, and this report should  
359 contain any steps taken to reduce operating costs.

360 **SECTION 24.** It is the intention of the Legislature that no  
361 state-owned aircraft shall be utilized by any person except for  
362 official business only.

363 **SECTION 25.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
364 act, an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars



365 (\$100,000.00) is authorized to be expended to defray any shortfall  
366 in the Master Lease Purchase Program as defined in Section  
367 31-7-10, Mississippi Code of 1972.

368 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
369 act, Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00) shall be expended  
370 from the Capitol Complex Improvement District Project Fund, as  
371 established in Section 29-5-215, Mississippi Code of 1972.

372 **SECTION 27.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be  
373 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital City  
374 Water/Sewer Projects Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
375 Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized in Senate  
376 Bill No. 3054, 2024 Regular Session, for the purpose of providing  
377 funds to assist the City of Jackson, Mississippi, in paying costs  
378 associated with construction, reconstruction, repairs, upgrades  
379 and improvements to the City of Jackson's water and sewer systems  
380 and related facilities as authorized in Section 29-5-251,  
381 established in Section 37-185-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, for  
382 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026..  
383 .....\$ 27,700,459.00.

384 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
385 in no event shall the amount expended exceed the unexpended  
386 balance of the funds remaining as of June 30, 2025, or change the  
387 purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

388 **SECTION 28.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
389 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus





390 State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
391 Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized in Senate  
392 Bill 3054, 2024 Regular Session, for the purpose of defraying  
393 eligible administration and reporting expenses related to the  
394 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the fiscal year  
395 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....  
396 .....\$ 6,780,203.00

397 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
398 in no event shall the amount expended exceed the unexpended  
399 balance of the funds remaining as of June 30, 2025, or change the  
400 purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

401 **SECTION 29.** With the funds appropriated herein, the  
402 Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration is authorized  
403 to make payments for expenses incurred during fiscal years 2021  
404 and 2023 for an amount not to exceed Ninety-Eight Thousand Eight  
405 Hundred Seventy-eight Dollars and Thirty-two Cents (\$98,878.32).  
406 These payments are for invoices from the City of Jackson Water and  
407 Mississippi Industries for the Blind.

408 **SECTION 30.** Notwithstanding any other provision, the agency  
409 shall have the authority to escalate its headcount for any  
410 additional operational needs related to Coronavirus State Fiscal  
411 Recovery Funds, upon approval of the Department of Finance and  
412 Administration and the State Personnel Board.

413 **SECTION 31.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
414 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with



415 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
416 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
417 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
418 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
419 actions contrary to this provision.

420         **SECTION 32.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
421 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
422 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
423 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
424 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
425 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

426         **SECTION 33.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
427 and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed from and after  
428 June 30, 2025.

