

By: Representatives Oliver, Read, Arnold,
Boyd (19th), Hines, Mangold, Massengill,
Roberson, Scoggin

To: Appropriations E;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1935

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING
2 K-12 AND OTHER RELATED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CERTAIN
3 AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, FOR THE FISCAL
4 YEAR 2027.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as
7 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in the State
8 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
9 funding K-12 and other related educational activities, including
10 certain agencies and programs, in the State of Mississippi, for
11 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027,
12 as follows:

13 (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
14 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education, and
15 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
16 Division.....\$ 139,708,648.00.

17 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
18 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
19 Division of the State Department of Education.....



20\$ 101,309,789.00.

21 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
22 paying annual compensation to the Chickasaw Cession counties for
23 sixteenth section lands which they lost through sale by the state,
24 as provided in Sections 29-3-137 through 29-3-141, Mississippi
25 Code of 1972.....\$ 21,623,074.00.

26 (d) To the State Board of Education for defraying the
27 expenses of the Mississippi Student Funding Formula.....
28\$ 2,899,333,464.00.

29 TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
30 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 3,161,974,975.00.

31 **SECTION 2.** The following sums, or so much of those sums as
32 may be necessary, are appropriated out of any money in any special
33 fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or
34 funds of the agencies or programs specified in the following
35 paragraphs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending
36 June 30, 2027, as follows:

37 (a) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
38 defraying the expenses of the State Department of Education,
39 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
40 Division.....\$ 2,014,346,567.00.

41 (b) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
42 defraying the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
43 Division of the State Department of Education.....
44\$ 22,725,318.00.



45 (c) To the State Board of Education for the purpose of
46 defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Student Funding Formula.
47\$ 293,025,562.00.

48 TOTAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED
49 BY THIS SECTION BEING.....\$ 2,330,097,447.00.

50 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, One
51 Hundred Twenty-six Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-two Dollars
52 (\$126,472.00), or so much of that sum as may be necessary, is
53 appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit
54 of the Health Care Expendable Fund to the State Department of
55 Education for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the
56 department for the Mississippi Eye Screening Program for providing
57 vision safety services.

58 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, the
59 following sums, or so much of those sums as may be necessary, are
60 derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of
61 the Education Enhancement Fund pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and
62 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as follows:

63 (a) To the State Department of Education, excluding the
64 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division, for
65 the following purposes:

66 Literacy Initiative and Assessment.....\$ 6,805,774.00
67 Educable Child.....\$ 9,500,000.00
68 Grants to school districts for
69 capital facilities and buses.....\$ 16,000,000.00



70	Instructional materials.....	\$ 25,000,000.00
71	Students with Special Needs.....	\$ 1,800,000.00
72	Implementing Performance-Based Data	
73	Collection and Accreditation	
74	Model.....	\$ 274,937.00
75	Testing.....	\$ 6,125,670.00
76	Mississippi School for Math and	
77	Science.....	\$ 1,131,000.00
78	Mississippi School for Fine Arts.	\$ 927,632.00
79	Early Learning Collaboratives.....	\$ 21,210,526.00
80	Other Early Learning Programs.....	\$ 13,000,000.00
81	Early Learning Coaches.....	\$ 3,251,533.00
82	Math Coaches.....	\$ 5,000,000.00
83	WorkKeys.....	\$ 1,000,000.00
84	Advanced Placement, Dual Credits,	
85	International Baccalaureate,	
86	Cambridge Diploma Endorsements.....	\$ 300,000.00
87	Vocational Technical Grants.....	\$ 1,000,000.00
88	Mississippi School for the Deaf	
89	and Blind.....	\$ 1,557,037.00
90	Mississippi Teacher Residency Program.....	\$ 3,500,000.00
91	District Improvement and Teacher	
92	Stabilization.....	\$ 18,000,000.00
93	TOTAL.....	\$ 135,384,109.00



94 (b) To the State Department of Education to defray the
95 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division.....
96\$ 6,637,258.00.

97 (c) To the State Department of Education to provide
98 funding for the Mississippi Student Funding Formula.....
99\$ 293,025,562.00.

100 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
101 this act to the State Department of Education, excluding the
102 expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education Division, not
103 more than the following amount of funds, with the exception of the
104 provisions in this section, shall be expended only for "Personal
105 Services," which includes "Vacancy Funding," for the following
106 authorized number of employment headcount:

107 FUNDING:

108	General Funds:	\$	19,816,218.00
109	Special Funds:	\$	16,976,119.00
110	Total Funds:	\$	36,792,337.00

111 PERSONAL SERVICES:

112	Employee Salaries, Wages, and		
113	Fringe Benefits:	\$	35,304,003.00
114	Progressions:	\$	0.00
115	Vacancy Funding:	\$	1,488,334.00
116	Total Personal Services:	\$	36,792,337.00

117 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

118	Permanent:	330
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119 Time-Limited: 124

120 As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall
121 mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category
122 Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds
123 in this category shall not be transferred to any other category.

124 It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compliance
125 with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section
126 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these funds shall
127 be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promulgated
128 by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legislature's
129 intention that no employee's salary falls below the minimum salary
130 established by the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

131 The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the
132 projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and
133 year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the
134 provisions of this act.

135 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
136 responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or
137 combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the
138 Fiscal Year 2027 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the
139 exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's
140 responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated
141 for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2028 do not exceed Fiscal
142 Year 2027 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or



143 positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2027 budget by the
144 Mississippi Legislature.

145 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change
146 "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the
147 agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the
148 agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when
149 annualized for Fiscal Year 2027 or increase the need for "Personal
150 Services" for Fiscal Year 2028, when annualized, the State
151 Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as
152 the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with
153 the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the
154 agency.

155 When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds
156 included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and
157 designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2027. These funds
158 are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts
159 that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal
160 Year 2026. If the agency fills additional headcounts after May 1,
161 2025, until the end of Fiscal Year 2026, the amount of available
162 Vacancy Funding may be proportionally reduced to reflect the
163 updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall be
164 responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to
165 increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes,
166 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
167 salaries for current employees.



168 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
169 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
170 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
171 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written
172 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The
173 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written
174 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts
175 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the
176 appropriated level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year
177 2026 escalated headcounts have been accounted for and shall be
178 converted to authorized time-limited headcounts.

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

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

187 If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from
188 Fiscal Year 2026 to Fiscal Year 2027, it will be the agency's
189 discretion as to what headcounts are removed.

190 **SECTION 6.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance
191 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of
192 the Legislature that the funds provided in this act shall be



193 utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible to
 194 achieve the intended mission of the State Department of Education,
 195 excluding the expenses of the Vocational and Technical Education
 196 Division. Based on the funding authorized, this agency shall make
 197 every effort to attain the targeted performance measures provided
 198 below:

199	FY2027
200 <u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
201 Special Education	
202 Number of Special Education Teachers (FTE)	6,500
203 Number of Gifted Education Teachers	750
204 Percent of Children with Disabilities in	
205 General Education Early Childhood	
206 Programs while Decreasing the Percent in	
207 Self-Contained Special Education Early	
208 Childhood Classrooms	76.00
209 General Administration	
210 Total Dollars Spent on General	
211 Administration	16,000,000.00
212 Percent of Total Budget Spent on General	
213 Administration	10.00
214 Create a Public-Facing Data System for	
215 All Stakeholders	100.00
216 Create a User-Friendly Website for the	
217 Public and School Districts to Access	



218	Data to Make Decisions	100.00
219	Create a Roadmap to Improve the	
220	Mississippi Student Information System	100.00
221	Number of Research Results Published to	
222	Support Improved Student Outcomes and	
223	Teacher Effectiveness	9
224	Graduation & Career Readiness	
225	Percent of Students Graduating from High	
226	School Ready for College or Career in	
227	Each Subgroup	100.00
228	Early Childhood Education	
229	Percent of Kindergarten Students	
230	Achieving End-Of-Year Target Score on	
231	Kindergarten Readiness Post-Test	100.00
232	Percent of Early Learning Collaborative	
233	Sites Meeting Required Rate of Readiness	100.00
234	Number of Students Enrolled in Title I	
235	or Locally Funded Pre-K Classes	3,500
236	Teacher Tng & Professional Dev	
237	Reduce the Proportion of Inexperienced	
238	and Non-Certified Teachers in Schools	31.00
239	Percent of Districts Reporting	
240	Professional Growth System (PGS) Ratings	
241	for Teachers and Leaders	100.00
242	Percent of Teacher Candidates Passing	



243	Licensure Exams on the First Attempt	75.00
244	Elementary Education	
245	Percent Increase of Students who Pass	
246	the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment at the	
247	First Administration in Each Subgroup	78.00
248	Secondary Education	
249	Increase the Number of Students	
250	Participating in and Passing Advanced	
251	Placement (AP), International	
252	Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge Exams	
253	in Each Subgroup	60.00
254	Percent of Students Ready for College as	
255	Measured by Meeting ACT Benchmarks in	
256	Each Content Area (Public School Class	
257	Data, Grade 11)	90.00
258	Assessment & Development	
259	Percent of Students Proficient (Levels	
260	4-5) on Statewide Assessments (Grades	
261	3-8 & High School Composite) in Each	
262	Subgroup	80.00
263	Percent of Students Scoring Levels 1-3	
264	on Statewide Assessments in Each	
265	Subgroup	20.00
266	Percent of Pre-Kindergarten Students in	
267	Public Schools Attaining Kindergarten	



268	Readiness on the Pre-K End-Of-Year	
269	Assessment	90.00
270	School Performance	
271	Percent of Schools Rated "C" or Higher	90.00
272	Percent of Districts Rated "C" or Higher	90.00
273	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	
274	on Statewide ELA Assessments in Each	
275	Subgroup	70.00
276	Percent of Students Demonstrating Growth	
277	on Statewide Math Assessments in Each	
278	Subgroup	75.00
279	Percent of Students Participating in	
280	Dual Credit in Each Subgroup	60.00
281	Percent of Students Passing Dual Credit	
282	in Each Subgroup	98.00
283	Increase the Growth of D and F Districts	
284	Demonstrating Growth, by Improving the	
285	Letter Grade and/or Increasing the	
286	Number of Points within a Letter Grade	80.00
287	Increase the Growth of D and F Schools	
288	by Improving the Letter Grade and/or	
289	Increasing the Number of Points within a	
290	Letter Grade	80.00
291	Increase the Growth of Districts of	
292	Transformation by Improving the Letter	



318 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
319 this act, not more than the following amount of funds, with the
320 exception of the provisions in this section, shall be expended
321 only for "Personal Services," which includes "Vacancy Funding,"
322 for the following authorized number of employment headcount:

323 FUNDING:

324 General Funds:	\$ 3,560,928.00
325 Special Funds:	\$ 503,683.00
326 Total Funds:	\$ 4,064,611.00

327 PERSONAL SERVICES:

328 Employee Salaries, Wages and	
329 Fringe Benefits:	\$ 3,658,150.00
330 Progressions:	\$ 0.00
331 Vacancy Funding:	\$ 406,461.00
332 Total Personal Services:	\$ 4,064,611.00

333 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

334 Permanent:	48
335 Time-Limited:	5

336 As used in this section, the term "Personal Services" shall
337 mean funds provided under the major object of expenditure category
338 Personal Services for Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits. Funds
339 in this category shall not be transferred to any other category.

340 It is the intention of the Legislature to ensure compliance
341 with the Variable Compensation Plan, as outlined in Section
342 25-9-147, Mississippi Code of 1972. Payment from these funds shall



343 be in accordance with the Variable Compensation Plan promulgated
344 by the Mississippi State Personnel Board. It is the Legislature's
345 intention that no employee's salary falls below the minimum salary
346 established by the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

347 The State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the
348 projected annual cost of "Personal Services" based on monthly and
349 year-to-date payroll expenditures in compliance with the
350 provisions of this act.

351 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's
352 responsibility to ensure that no single personnel action or
353 combination of personnel actions, when annualized, exceeds the
354 Fiscal Year 2027 appropriation for "Personal Services" with the
355 exception of escalated funds. Further, it shall be the agency's
356 responsibility to ensure that funds required to be appropriated
357 for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2028 do not exceed Fiscal
358 Year 2027 funds appropriated for that purpose unless programs or
359 positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2027 budget by the
360 Mississippi Legislature.

361 If, at the time the agency takes any action to change
362 "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the
363 agency has taken or will take an action that would cause the
364 agency to exceed the funds appropriated in this act when
365 annualized for Fiscal Year 2027 or increase the need for "Personal
366 Services" for Fiscal Year 2028, when annualized, the State
367 Personnel Board shall process no salary actions until such time as



368 the requirements of the provisions of this section are met with
369 the exception of new hires determined to be essential for the
370 agency.

371 When used in this section, "Vacancy Funding" shall mean funds
372 included in the Total Personal Services amount listed above and
373 designated for approved vacancies in Fiscal Year 2027. These funds
374 are to be utilized to increase the number of filled headcounts
375 that were authorized but unfilled as of the last day of Fiscal
376 Year 2026. If the agency fills additional headcounts after
377 February 1, 2026, until the end of Fiscal Year 2026, the amount of
378 available Vacancy Funding may be proportionally adjusted to
379 reflect the updated number of filled headcounts. The agency shall
380 be responsible for ensuring that "Vacancy Funding" is used to
381 increase headcounts and not for promotions, title changes,
382 in-range salary adjustments, or any other mechanism for increasing
383 salaries for current employees.

384 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
385 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or
386 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State
387 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions or increase the
388 Personal Services total without written approval from the
389 Department of Finance and Administration. The Department of
390 Finance and Administration shall not provide written approval to
391 escalate any funds for salaries and/or headcounts without proof of
392 availability of new or additional funds above the appropriated



393 level. Unless specifically noted, all Fiscal Year 2026 escalated
394 headcounts have been accounted for and shall be converted to
395 authorized time-limited headcounts.

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

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

404 If the agency's total authorized headcount decreases from
405 Fiscal Year 2026 to Fiscal Year 2027, it will be the agency's
406 discretion as to what headcounts are removed.

407 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
408 not to exceed One Million Twenty-three Thousand Five Hundred
409 Seventy-four Dollars (\$1,023,574.00) is authorized for the support
410 of vocational and technical education programs as authorized in
411 Section 37-31-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, for a period in excess
412 of ten (10) months in a calendar year.

413 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
414 Vocational and Technical Education Division of the State
415 Department of Education shall, with the funds appropriated in
416 Section 1, transfer no more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars
417 (\$75,000.00) to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation



418 Commission for the purpose of providing matching funds to purchase
419 soil conservation equipment.

420 **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, no more
421 than One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) is
422 provided for the purpose of supporting the Future Farmers of
423 America Center.

424 **SECTION 13.** The State Department of Education shall transfer
425 the designated amounts to the appropriate entities, which shall
426 assume full responsibility for the expenditure of these funds in
427 accordance with state laws and accept all responsibility for any
428 improper expenditure, for the following:

429	Detention Centers.....	\$	3,000,000.00.
430	Dyslexia Program.....	\$	225,000.00.
431	Amplify Data Coaching.....	\$	800,000.00.
432	Magnolia Speech School.....	\$	1,000,000.00.
433	Sight Savers.....	\$	475,000.00.
434	Teach for America.....	\$	860,000.00.
435	Teacher Corp and Principal Corp.....	\$	300,000.00.
436	Vision Screening Research.....	\$	325,000.00.
437	Lighthouse Academy for Dyslexia.....	\$	200,000.00.
438	Algebra Nation.....	\$	1,100,000.00.
439	Mississippi Construction Education Program.....	\$	212,500.00.
440	T. K. Martin Center.....	\$	100,000.00.
441	JumpStart Act.....	\$	225,000.00.
442	Mastery Prep.....	\$	225,000.00.



443 Arts for All Mississippi.....\$ 50,000.00.
 444 Can U University.....\$ 125,000.00.
 445 Reading Clinic.....\$ 700,000.00.
 446 TOTAL.....\$ 9,922,500.00.

447 **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that of
 448 the funds provided for Other Early Learning Programs in Section
 449 4(a), Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) is included for
 450 the Mississippi Department of Education to provide grant
 451 opportunities for Other Early Learning Programs through public
 452 schools including other public school preschool programs not
 453 participating in Early Learning Collaboratives.

454 **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
 455 not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
 456 (\$1,500,000.00) shall be used for technological methods for
 457 agricultural programs, computer science, engineering or robotic
 458 engineering programs and equipment upgrades and Mississippi
 459 Elementary (ME) STEM and STEAM programs from the Career and
 460 Technical Education Division of the State Department of Education.
 461 All programs must meet Mississippi Science Standards and/or
 462 College and Career Standards.

463 Of the funds appropriated in this section, an amount not to
 464 exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be distributed to
 465 the Mississippi State University Center for Cyber Education and
 466 used for computer science programs development and teacher
 467 training for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools



468 for the purpose of developing K-12 computer science curricula,
469 including both academic and career and technical education
470 programs, developing and delivering teacher training, and working
471 with the State Board of Education and Institutions of Higher
472 Learning in the state to develop teacher preparation programs for
473 computer science endorsements. All programs must meet the 2018
474 Mississippi Computer Science Standards and/or Mississippi College
475 and Career Standards.

476 **SECTION 16.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
477 computer science courses may be taught by certified teacher or for
478 elementary level classes, computer science courses may be taught
479 by teachers who are trained by the district in computer science
480 instruction.

481 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, the sum
482 of Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-one Dollars (\$62,191.00),
483 which is the aggregate sum that the school districts in the
484 Chickasaw Cession receive annually from interest payments from the
485 Chickasaw School Fund under Section 212, Mississippi Constitution
486 of 1890, shall be deducted from the allocations to the school
487 districts as provided in Section 29-3-137, Mississippi Code of
488 1972, and shall be distributed among the school districts in the
489 Chickasaw Cession by the State Department of Education in the
490 manner that those interest payments were distributed during Fiscal
491 Year 1985.



492 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds provided in this act for the
493 purpose of funding the Mississippi Student Funding Formula, the
494 Student Base Amount in Fiscal Year 2027 shall be Seven Thousand
495 Four Hundred Forty-seven Dollars and Thirty-seven Cents
496 (\$7,447.37).

497 **SECTION 19.** With the funds provided in this act, it is the
498 intention of the Legislature that School Attendance Officers and
499 academic teachers at the Mississippi School for the Deaf and the
500 Mississippi School for the Blind shall receive their annual
501 increment.

502 **SECTION 20.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
503 State Board of Education shall maintain complete accounting and
504 personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds
505 appropriated in this act and that those records shall be in the
506 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year
507 2026. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the
508 budget requests for Fiscal Year 2028 shall be submitted to the
509 Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail
510 comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the
511 Fiscal Year 2027 budget request process for each agency and
512 institution appropriated funds within the provisions of this act.

513 **SECTION 21.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) to the
514 State Board of Education, not less than Twenty-four Million Seven
515 Hundred Twenty-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-five Dollars
516 (\$24,727,955.00) shall be used for National Board Certification.



517 Of this amount, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall
518 be used for the World Class Teacher Program providing instruction
519 and assistance to teachers seeking National Board Certification.

520 **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and
521 Section 4(a) not less than Seventeen Million Five Hundred
522 Fifty-eight Thousand Dollars (\$17,558,000.00) shall be used for
523 the Educable Child Program. It is the intention of the
524 Legislature that the State Board of Education shall allocate
525 funding for the Educable Child Program based upon a recalculated
526 formula in a manner to include only those billable days funded
527 through appropriation of state funds and not District funds. It
528 is the intent of the Legislature that the Educable Child funds
529 shall be exempt from budget cuts made to the Department of
530 Education by the Legislature and/or the Office of the Governor.

531 **SECTION 23.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
532 Section 4(a), not less than Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00)
533 shall be used for the Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program.
534 It is the intent of the Legislature that the Education Scholarship
535 Account (ESA) funds shall not be reduced by the State Department
536 of Education and/or the Office of the Governor.

537 **SECTION 24.** The public school districts of the state are
538 authorized at their discretion to pay with local funds one hundred
539 percent (100%) of the cost of the health insurance premiums of the
540 State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan for all retired
541 members of the Public Employees' Retirement System who are



542 employed as school bus drivers by the school districts. It is the
543 intention of the Legislature that no state funds shall be used for
544 this purpose.

545 **SECTION 25.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
546 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
547 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
548 stated in those received bids are equal with respect to price,
549 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
550 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
551 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
552 made without competitive bids.

553 **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, not less
554 than Eight Million Six Hundred Thirty-four Thousand Six Hundred
555 Sixteen Dollars (\$8,634,616.00) shall be used for the Compulsory
556 School Attendance Office and Student Success and Graduation
557 Coaches.

558 **SECTION 27.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the
559 intention of the Legislature that Three Million Sixty Thousand
560 Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) shall be used for the Mary
561 Kirkpatrick-Mary Sprayberry Public School Nurse Program. The
562 amount of Three Million Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$3,060,000.00) is
563 provided from the Department of Health.

564 **SECTION 28.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
565 State Board of Education shall charge a fee for room and board for
566 students who enroll in the Mississippi School for Mathematics and



567 Science and the Mississippi School of Arts. Such fees will be
568 waived for any student enrolled in the State Children's Health
569 Insurance Program. The amount of such fees shall be Five Hundred
570 Dollars (\$500.00) for each semester.

571 **SECTION 29.** It is the intent of the Legislature that each
572 eligible employee who meets the National Board requirements under
573 Section 37-19-7(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be paid the
574 full supplement and that such supplement shall be included on a
575 prorated basis in the employee's monthly paycheck.

576 **SECTION 30.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
577 Mississippi Department of Education may loan any general or
578 special source fund amount, not to exceed Five Million Dollars
579 (\$5,000,000.00), to any school district for the purpose of
580 providing funds to school districts through the Emergency
581 Assistance Fund as outlined in Section 37-17-6, Mississippi Code
582 of 1972, during the period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending
583 June 30, 2027. The school districts receiving these loans shall
584 repay the Mississippi Department of Education the amount of the
585 loan on or before June 30, 2027.

586 **SECTION 31.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
587 Million One Hundred Sixty-five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Dollars
588 (\$2,165,290.00) is provided for the operation of a State-Wide
589 Synchronous Instructional Project.



590 **SECTION 32.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Seven
591 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) shall be transferred to the
592 Board of Health no later than December 31, 2026.

593 **SECTION 33.** Any school district receiving funds through Save
594 the Children may provide a ten percent (10%) match from local
595 funds for implementation of the program.

596 **SECTION 34.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
597 Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is provided for the Mississippi
598 Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant
599 program. A portion of these funds not to exceed one percent (1%)
600 may be used for training and administrative costs related to
601 oversight and auditing of the program.

602 **SECTION 35.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
603 Section 2(a), Twenty-nine Million Dollars (\$29,000,000.00) is
604 provided for an Early Childhood Education Initiative program. The
605 funding shall be provided to early learning collaboratives in
606 Fiscal Year 2027 as follows: no less than Two Thousand Five
607 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per student in a full-day program and
608 no less than One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)
609 per student in a half-day program. Funds must be matched as
610 provided by Section 37-21-51, Mississippi Code of 1972.

611 **SECTION 36.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) and
612 Section 4(a), Fifteen Million Ninety-four Thousand Five Hundred
613 Dollars (\$15,094,500.00) shall be used for the Literacy Initiative
614 and Assessment and monitoring and evaluating the adoption and



615 implementation of high-quality instructional materials that have
616 been reviewed through the approved state process and distributed
617 through regional textbook depository as outlined in Section
618 37-43-23, Mississippi Code of 1972.

619 **SECTION 37.** Of the funds appropriated herein, funding is
620 provided for the ACT test, which is the college readiness portion
621 of the state accountability model.

622 **SECTION 38.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a), Two
623 Million Eight Hundred Seventy-six Thousand Two Hundred Seventy
624 Dollars (\$2,876,270.00) shall be used for the Mississippi School
625 of the Arts and Four Million Two Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three
626 Hundred Seventy-three Dollars (\$4,213,373.00) shall be used for
627 the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. It is the
628 intention of the Legislature that of the funds appropriated in
629 Section 1(a) for the Mississippi School of the Arts, One Million
630 Four Hundred Thirty-eight Thousand One Hundred Thirty-five Dollars
631 (\$1,438,135.00) shall be paid to the school no later than July 10,
632 2026, and One Million Four Hundred Thirty-eight Thousand One
633 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$1,438,135.00) shall be paid no later
634 than January 10, 2027. All funds appropriated from Section 4(a)
635 for the Mississippi School of the Arts shall be paid to the school
636 each month within ten (10) working days after such amount was
637 received by the Department of Education. It is the intention of
638 the Legislature that the State Board of Education shall not reduce
639 the appropriated amounts provided in this act for the Mississippi



640 School of the Arts and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and
641 Science.

642 **SECTION 39.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) and
643 Section 2(b), Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) is
644 provided for career and technical grants to schools for qualified
645 students as authorized by Section 37-153-15, Mississippi Code of
646 1972.

647 **SECTION 40.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the
648 following amounts shall be available to the Schools for the Blind
649 and Deaf: Ten Million Eight Hundred Eighty-three Thousand Four
650 Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars (\$10,883,437.00) from Section 1(a),
651 One Million Five Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Thirty-seven Dollars
652 (\$1,557,037.00) from Section 4(a), and Two Million Four Hundred
653 Fifty-nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-five Dollars
654 (\$2,459,725.00) from Section 2(a).

655 **SECTION 41.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) of this
656 act, One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000.00) is
657 provided for the continuation of the current school safety
658 platform.

659 **SECTION 42.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, an amount
660 not to exceed Four Million One Hundred Seventy-one Thousand Three
661 Hundred One Dollars (\$4,171,301.00) is authorized to fully fund
662 the contract between the Department of Education and the Research
663 & Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to fund career



664 and technical curricula, services to secondary schools and career
665 and technical assessments.

666 **SECTION 43.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b) to the
667 State Board of Education, Seven Hundred Eighty-five Thousand Three
668 Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars (\$785,337.00) is provided for
669 secondary career and technical education instructors teaching at
670 post-secondary institutions.

671 **SECTION 44.** In addition to all other funds appropriated
672 herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,
673 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to
674 the credit of the Charter School Authorizer Board for operational
675 expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending
676 June 30, 2027.....\$ 1,403,231.00.

677 **SECTION 45.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(b), One
678 Million Four Hundred Thirty-two Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-two
679 Dollars (\$1,432,872.00) shall be provided for new Career and
680 Technical Education Programs as determined by the Division of
681 Vocational and Technical Education at the Mississippi Department
682 of Education. Of the funds appropriated to the department for
683 these programs, no amount shall be expended by the department to
684 defray administrative costs.

685 **SECTION 46.** The Mississippi Department of Education shall
686 provide an annual report detailing the funding of industry
687 certifications and the anticipated industry certifications that



688 will be achieved in the upcoming fiscal year to the Legislative
689 Budget Office and the Legislature no later than January 15, 2027.

690 **SECTION 47.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
691 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Education
692 Enhancement Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Mississippi
693 Department of Education for the purpose of reauthorizing the
694 expenditure of Education Enhancement Funds as authorized in House
695 Bill 42, 2025 First Extraordinary Session, for the fiscal year
696 beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.....
697\$ 37,784,112.00.

698 This reappropriation is made for the purpose of reauthorizing
699 the expenditure of funds as allocated herein:

- 700 a. Instructional Materials.....\$ 3,403,478.00.
- 701 b. Early Learning Collaboratives.....\$ 20,935,632.00.
- 702 c. Other Early Learning Programs.....\$ 13,445,002.00.

703 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,
704 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this
705 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds
706 remaining as of June 30, 2026, from the amount authorized for the
707 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not
708 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

709 **SECTION 48.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (a),
710 Twenty-one Million Nine Hundred Twelve Thousand Three Hundred
711 Fourteen Dollars (\$21,912,314.00) is provided for the annual
712 salary supplement for each licensed special education teacher



713 employed by a school district on a full-time basis and
714 specifically providing special education instruction as provided
715 in House Bill 1126, 2026 Regular Session.

716 **SECTION 49.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 (b), an
717 amount not to exceed Fourteen Million Four Hundred Ninety-six
718 Thousand Four Hundred Five Dollars (\$14,496,405.00) shall be
719 allocated for the purpose of providing funds to each public school
720 district in the state for Career and Technical Education teachers
721 as prescribed in the Minimum Salary Schedules amended in House
722 Bill 1126, 2026 Regular Session.

723 **SECTION 50.** The money appropriated in this act shall be paid
724 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the proper fund or
725 funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State
726 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue warrants
727 upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers
728 in the manner provided by law.

729 **SECTION 51.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
730 and after July 1, 2026.

