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Chapter No. 34
10/HR03/A099SG
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1621

Originated in House Don Richardson Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 1621

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF INDIGENT APPEALS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in any special fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Office of Indigent Appeals which is comprised of special source funds collected by or otherwise available for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Mississippi Office of Indigent Appeals for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, and ending June 30, 2011 .... $ 1,650,875.00.

SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 1, not more than the amounts set forth below shall be expended for the respective major objects or purposes of expenditure:

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE:

Personal Services:	
Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits .. $	1,130,600.00
Travel and Subsistence	30,000.00
Contractual Services	430,275.00
Commodities	49,000.00
Capital Outlay:	
Other Than Equipment	0.00
Equipment	11,000.00
Vehicles	0.00
Wireless Communication Devices	0.00

Subsidies, Loans and Grants		0.00
Total	$	1,650,875.00

FUNDING:

General Funds	$	0.00
Special Funds		1,650,875.00
Total	$	1,650,875.00

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent:	Full Time	12
	Part Time	0
Time-Limited:	Full Time	0
	Part Time	0

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

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and/or other special funds which are being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

SECTION 3. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Office of Indigent Appeals shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2010. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2012 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of

detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2011 budget request process.

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

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Director of the Office of Indigent Appeals shall have the authority to accept, budget and expend any source funds, not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00). Such funds are to be escalated in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that the agency shall compile cell phone usage records of any cellular phone (wireless communication device) that is assigned, issued or made available to any officer or employee in accordance with Section 25-53-191, Mississippi Code of 1972, and these records shall be made publicly available at the expense of the agency.

SECTION 7. It is legislative intent to ensure beneficial information reaches as many Mississippians as possible. Further, it is legislative intent that the expenditure of public funds for this purpose be accomplished in an efficient and effective manner.

Therefore, state agencies as standard procedure will observe the following criteria:

(a) Develop goals and desired result for a campaign.

(b) Evaluate effectiveness through respected advertising standards, including market reach and cost effectiveness.

(c) Seek public service announcements, which would be aired by media without cost.

(d) Itemize and justify professional assistance and related expenses for creative and production costs outside of the actual media expenditures.

(e) Utilize Mississippi-owned media companies when feasible.

SECTION 8. It is the intention of the Legislature that this agency shall have the authority to receive, budget and expend funds from any source that may become available to them as a result of the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and Administration shall have the authority to approve escalations of funds and employee positions using funds from any source available due to the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and Administration shall immediately send notice of the approval of such budget escalation to the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Legislative Budget Office. Within fifteen (15) days of such approval, the Executive Director of the Department of Finance and Administration shall ensure that the Legislative Budget Office receives detailed and accurate information about the amount and use of federal and special source funds by state agencies as a result of the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

SECTION 9. No former employee who is receiving State of Mississippi retirement benefits shall be hired under contract for an amount exceeding Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.00) a year

without prior approval by an agency's proper governing board or authority. Upon approval of such contracts, a written report shall be submitted detailing the cost and need of such contract services to the Chairmen and members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees.

SECTION 10. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2010.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 20, 2010

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE
April 20, 2010

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR

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