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Chapter No. 52
18/HR31/A330SG
SD / CSF

HOUSE BILL NO. 1602

Originated in House _____ Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 1602

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019.

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 appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Department of Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019 ..... $ 23,825,164.00.

SECTION 2. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of Rehabilitation Services which is comprised of special source funds collected by or otherwise available to the department for the support of the various offices of the department, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019 ..... $ 204,353,338.00.

SECTION 3. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 2, Three Million Six Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Eight Hundred Two Dollars ($3,681,802.00) shall be derived from the Health Care Expendable Fund created in Section 43-13-407, Mississippi Code of 1972. The above funds shall be allocated as follows:

Fully match all available federal funds	$	2,782,590.00
Independent Living Program which includes the State Attendant Care Program	$	854,903.00
Deaf and hard of hearing	$	44,309.00

SECTION 4. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Sections 1, 2 and 3, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent:	Full Time	950
	Part Time	8
Time-Limited:	Full Time	200
	Part Time	1

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind shall remain accredited by using not more than Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) of the funds appropriated along with matching funds for payment of fees to an accreditation agency recommended by the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2020 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2019 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2019 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2019 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

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.

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

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Department of Rehabilitation Services 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 2018. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2020 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 2019 budget request process.

SECTION 6. Of the funds appropriated herein, the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind is authorized to expend an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.00) for the National Federation for the Blind (NFB) News line service to allow blind and visually impaired persons to access newspapers through toll-free telephone calls.

SECTION 7. 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 8. In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized, this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted performance measures provided below:

Performance Measures	FY2019 Target
Disability Determination Svcs	

Dispositions (Number of)	90,000
Processing Time (Days)	98
Voc Rehab For The Blind	
Blind & Visually Impaired Served (Persons)	1,500
Persons Rehabilitated (Number of)	313
Number Served, Independent Living	950
Percentage Change of Persons Employed Compared to Total Persons Served	2.50
Vocational Rehabilitation	
Clients Served (Number of)	12,250
Clients Rehabilitated (Number of)	3,040
Percentage Change of Persons Employed Compared to Total Persons Served	3.10
Persons Employed with Pay Rate Greater Than Federal or State Minimum Wage	2,600
Persons With Significant Disabilities Leaving VR with Competitive, Self, or BEP Employment, Wages = or > than Minimum	60.00
Spinal Cord & Head Injury Prg	
Clients Served (Number of)	825
Percentage Change in Number of Spinal Cord and Brain Injuries per Year	3.00
Establishment & Const Grants	
Number of Grants Awarded	0
Special Disability Programs	

Clients Served (Number of)	3,500
Percentage Change in Persons Receiving HCBW Services Compared to Waiting List	56.00
Ratio of Cost of HCBW Services per Person Compared to an Institutional Setting	38.00
Support Services	
Percentage of Total Budget	1.44

A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for Fiscal Year 2020.

SECTION 9. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is the intention of the Legislature that One Million Five Hundred Sixty-three Thousand Thirty-nine Dollars ($1,563,039.00) shall be allocated to the Spinal Cord & Head Injury Trust supported from General Fund court assessments.

SECTION 10. Of the fund appropriated in Section 1, One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) is provided for the support of the Independent Living Home and Community Based Waiver programs along with any additional funds that may be appropriated to these programs.

SECTION 11. It is the intention of the Legislature that the funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their

appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for actions contrary to this provision.

SECTION 12. 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 13. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2018.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 26, 2018

Philip Gunn

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE
March 26, 2018

Tate Reeves

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

Phil Bryant

GOVERNOR

April 11, 2018
10:42 AM