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Chapter No. 4
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SENATE BILL NO. 2981

Originated in Senate Liz Walsh Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 2981

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE TREASURY TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC CONTRACTORS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019.

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

SECTION 1. The following sum of money, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019 ..... $ 3,990,553.00.

SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of this act, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent:	Full Time	16
	Part Time	0
Time-Limited:	Full Time	0
	Part Time	0

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 3. Of the funds appropriated in this act, it is the intention of the Legislature that the State Board of Contractors may expend funds not to exceed Two Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,300,000.00) for the purpose of defraying the cost of (1) enforcement as set forth in Section 31-3-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, (2) enlisting of any private collection firm(s) to locate and collect any uncollected fines, and (3) administrative costs associated with collections. Any funds spent for this purpose shall be subject to a performance audit if requested by the Appropriations Chairmen in either the House or Senate.

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 this agency shall have the authority to expend funds from any source that may become available to the agency in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds for the purpose of funding any increase in health insurance costs for Fiscal Year 2019, or for the purpose of funding additional fees, costs or assessments received by the agency from the Department of Information Technology Services or the Department of Finance and Administration for Fiscal Year 2019 that may be incurred by the agency as a result of legislation passed during the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature and approved by the Governor. The agency is authorized to escalate other special funds for the limited purposes provided in this section in an amount not to exceed Thirty-six Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-six Dollars ($36,876.00).

SECTION 6. 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 7. 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 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2018.

PASSED BY THE SENATE
February 15, 2018

Tate Reeves

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 8, 2018

Philip Gunn

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

Phil Bryant

GOVERNOR

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