

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

**MR. SPEAKER AND MR. PRESIDENT:**

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 1825: Appropriation; Library Commission.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1c.
- 2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

5           **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support and maintenance  
8 of the Mississippi Library Commission and for carrying out the  
9 provisions of Section 39-3-107, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the  
10 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025  
11 .....\$       11,126,235.00.

12           **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
13 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the special fund in  
14 the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Library  
15 Commission which is comprised of special source funds collected by  
16 or otherwise available to the commission, for the purpose of  
17 defraying the expenses of the commission for the fiscal year  
18 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....



19 .....\$ 4,857,621.00.

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

22 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

23 Permanent: 48

24 Time-Limited: 1

25 With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
26 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
27 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds  
28 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
29 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi  
30 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
31 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
32 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
33 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
34 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024  
35 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
36 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
37 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
38 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
39 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
40 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
41 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

42 Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
43 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current



44 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to  
45 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do  
46 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
47 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the  
48 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
49 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
50 essential for the agency.

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

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

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



68           **SECTION 4.** Funds to be distributed to eligible public  
69 library systems under the Personnel Incentive Grants Program shall  
70 be paid quarterly in advance on or before September 30, December  
71 31, March 31 and June 30.

72           **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
73 Mississippi Library Commission shall maintain complete accounting  
74 and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds  
75 appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the  
76 same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year  
77 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the  
78 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to  
79 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of  
80 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided  
81 during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

82           **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
83 Section 2, Four Hundred Ninety-three Thousand Eight Hundred  
84 Forty-seven Dollars (\$493,847.00) shall be derived from the  
85 Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75  
86 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

87           **SECTION 7.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
88 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
89 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
90 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
91 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,



92 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
 93 performance measures provided below:

	FY2025
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
96 Administrative Services	
97       Number of Help Desk Tickets Resolved	1,150
98 Library Services	
99       Number of Continuing Education Workshops	
100           Held per Year	30
101       Percent Increase of Citizens Informed by	
102           Acquiring Needed Information Through	
103           Mississippi Libraries	1.00
104       Number of Library Visits by Commission Staff	175
105       Number of Patrons Utilizing Braille,	
106           Audio, Etc	4,000
107       Number of Children Participating in	
108           Statewide Summer Library Prg	120,000
109       Number of Items Borrowed and Loaned on	
110           the Interlibrary Loan System	10,000
111       Number of Items Available for Use	
112           Statewide on the Interlibrary Loan	
113           System	5,000,000
114       Number of Searches on MAGNOLIA	35,000,000
115       Number of Items Available for Use at MLC	
116           (PPrimary Resource Library)	100,000



117 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
118 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
119 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
120 Committee for Fiscal Year 2026.

121 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that no  
122 less than One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
123 (\$1,350,000.00) shall be expended for the Magnolia Database.

124 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Three  
125 Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) or so much thereof as  
126 may be necessary, is derived from the Education Enhancement Fund  
127 pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of  
128 1972, for MAGNOLIA.

129 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Four Million  
130 Five Hundred Eighty-four Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-nine  
131 Dollars (\$4,584,389.00) is provided for the cost of health  
132 insurance for all full-time library staff members in each public  
133 library in Mississippi.

134 **SECTION 11.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
135 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
136 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
137 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
138 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
139 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
140 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
141 made without competitive bids.



142           **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
143 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
144 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
145 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
146 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
147 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
148 actions contrary to this provision.

149           **SECTION 13.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
150 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
151 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
152 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
153 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
154 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

155           **SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
156 and after July 1, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1           AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND  
2 MAINTENANCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL  
3 YEAR 2025.



CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)  
Oliver

X (SIGNED)  
Read

X (SIGNED)  
Massengill

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)  
Hopson

X (SIGNED)  
DeBar

X (SIGNED)  
Robinson

