

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

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

S. B. No. 3044: Appropriation; Military Department.

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

1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the Senate and House 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 hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of
8 defraying the general expenses of the operation of the Mississippi
9 National Guard for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and
10 ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 9,490,876.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
12 necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Mississippi National
13 Guard, out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the
14 Camp Shelby Timber Fund No. 3700, as created by Chapter 187, Laws
15 of 1954, as amended; the Army National Guard Programs Fund No.
16 3701; the Camp Shelby Base Operations Fund No. 3705; and the Air
17 National Guard Programs Fund No. 3709, for the purpose of carrying
18 out the provisions of applicable statutes and federal/state



19 agreements for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending
20 June 30, 2025.....\$ 171,632,613.00.

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

23 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

24 Permanent: 886

25 Time-Limited: 27

26 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with
27 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law.

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31 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

32 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of
33 Section 2 of this act, funds in the amount of Four Million Dollars
34 (\$4,000,000.00) shall be derived from the Education Enhancement
35 Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31,
36 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the purpose of defraying the
37 expenses of the State Education Assistance Program.

38 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
39 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be submitted to
40 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
41 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
42 during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.



43 **SECTION 6.** All funds authorized to be expended herein shall
44 be expended and otherwise accounted for in accordance with the
45 provisions of Section 27-104-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.
46 If not needed for other purposes, the Adjutant General is hereby
47 expressly authorized to invest any part of or all monies herein
48 appropriated out of the Camp Shelby Timber Fund at the highest
49 rate of interest obtainable and credit interest accruing on such
50 investments to the respective fund. Such monies may be invested
51 in any short-term bonds, notes or other direct obligations of the
52 United States of America or the State of Mississippi or any county
53 or municipality of this state, which said county or municipal
54 bonds have been approved by a reputable bonds attorney or have
55 been validated by a decree of the court, and in any event the said
56 bonds, notes or obligations in which such funds are invested shall
57 mature or be redeemable prior to the time the funds so invested
58 will be needed for the refund or refunds herein provided for.

59 **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this
60 act, Two Million Three Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Nine Hundred
61 Ninety-nine Dollars (\$2,325,999.00) shall be provided for the
62 support of the Youth Challenge Program at Camp Shelby.

63 **SECTION 8.** Of the funds provided under the provisions of
64 this act, Six Hundred Fifty-eight Thousand Five Hundred Ten
65 Dollars (\$658,510.00) is provided for the Armed Forces Military
66 Museum located at Camp Shelby.



67 **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated to be expended in this
68 act, no General Funds shall be used to reimburse members and
69 personnel of the Mississippi National Guard for the costs
70 associated with attending authorized training. Any expenditure of
71 funds for the purpose of compensation of such personnel and
72 members for per diems and travel expenses shall be expended from
73 any federal funds which are made available to the Mississippi
74 National Guard for ancillary purposes.

75 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds provided under the provisions of
76 this act, an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars
77 (\$300,000.00) is provided for the Sonny Montgomery Center for
78 America's Veterans at Mississippi State University.

79 **SECTION 11.** Of the funds provided in Sections 1 and 2 of
80 this act, Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) is provided for the
81 purchase of uniforms for the Youth Challenge Program staff.

82 **SECTION 12.** The Adjutant General of Mississippi is hereby
83 authorized to transfer any part of appropriated funds, including
84 general funds or capital expense funds, to special funds within
85 the Mississippi Military Department, to facilitate federal grant
86 matching requirements. Prior written notification of transfer
87 shall be provided to the Legislative Budget Office and the
88 Department of Finance and Administration. The Military Department
89 shall provide an annual report of all transfers to the Chairmen of
90 the Appropriations Committees and the Legislative Budget Office by



91 October 1 each year, summarizing the status of projects funded by
92 transfers to special funds over the prior fiscal year.

93 **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that
94 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the
95 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things
96 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,
97 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind
98 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to
99 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are
100 made without competitive bids.

101 **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
102 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with
103 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency
104 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their
105 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally
106 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for
107 actions contrary to this provision.

108 **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
109 of Section 2 of this act, Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), or
110 so much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State
111 Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in
112 Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a
113 manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. This
114 appropriation is made for renovations, repairs, general operating
115 upgrades and additions at Youth Challenges Academy facilities or



116 for the 2023 Mississippi Military Department Readiness Centers
117 Fund created in Section 33-3-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, for
118 costs of planning, repairs, renovations, expansions, upgrades, and
119 furnishing and equipping of Readiness Centers.

120 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
121 of Section 2 of this act, Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000.00), or
122 so much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State
123 Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in
124 Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a
125 manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. This
126 appropriation is made for the Southaven Armory facility.

127 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
128 of Section 2 of this act, One Million Five Hundred Thousand
129 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00), or so much thereof, shall be derived out
130 of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Capital
131 Expense Fund, as created in Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code
132 of 1972, and allocated in a manner as determined by the
133 Treasurer's Office. This appropriation is made for the Corinth
134 Armory facility.

135 **SECTION 18.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
136 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
137 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
138 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
139 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
140 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.



141 **SECTION 19.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
142 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 PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING
2 THE EXPENSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD FOR FISCAL YEAR
3 2025.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Hopson

X (SIGNED)
Williams

X (SIGNED)
Tate

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Deweese

X (SIGNED)
Read

X (SIGNED)
Turner

