

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Universities and
Colleges;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2687

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 55-23-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROHIBIT THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM COMMISSION FROM
3 CHARGING JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY ANY FEE FOR THE USE OF THE
4 STADIUM AT ATHLETIC EVENTS WHEN THE UNIVERSITY IS THE HOME OR
5 VISITING TEAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 55-23-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 55-23-9. The commission shall operate the Mississippi
10 Veterans Memorial Stadium and to that end may employ such agents
11 and employees as may be required in connection therewith. It may
12 enter into contracts for the use of the stadium, and fix the
13 amount of the compensation therefor, and collect the same when
14 due.

15 All monies and revenues, including the amusement tax imposed
16 upon the sale of tickets for admission to the stadium, and all
17 monies arising from the use of stadium property, including that
18 realized from the sale of concessions, shall be paid by the
19 commission to the State Treasurer, to be placed to the credit of a
20 special fund to be known as the "Mississippi Veterans Memorial
21 Stadium Operating Fund" and any references in the laws to the
22 "Mississippi Memorial Stadium Fund" or the "Mississippi Veterans
23 Memorial Stadium Fund" shall mean the "Mississippi Veterans
24 Memorial Stadium Operating Fund" unless the context clearly
25 indicates otherwise. Any interest earned on amounts deposited in
26 the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium Operating Fund shall be
27 credited to such special fund. Provided, however, that

28 twenty-five percent (25%) of all profits realized by the
29 commission from the sale of concessions at athletic events when
30 Jackson State University is the home team shall be deposited to
31 the credit of a special auxiliary fund and authorized for
32 expenditure by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of
33 Higher Learning exclusively for the support of intercollegiate
34 athletics at such university. Provided further, that the
35 commission shall not charge Jackson State University any fee for
36 the use of the stadium at athletic events when Jackson State
37 University is the home or visiting team, and any operating
38 expenses incurred by the commission for the use of stadium
39 property at such events shall be paid from the Mississippi
40 Veterans Memorial Stadium Operating Fund. All expenses incident
41 to the operation and upkeep of the facilities and property managed
42 by the commission shall be paid out of the Mississippi Veterans
43 Memorial Stadium Operating Fund by warrants drawn by the
44 Department of Finance and Administration, which shall be issued on
45 the requisition of the commission.

46 All tickets sold to an event conducted in the Mississippi
47 Veterans Memorial Stadium shall have printed in an appropriate and
48 prominent place thereon the words A.C. "Butch" Lambert Field.

49 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
50 and after July 1, 1999.