

By: West

To: Universities and  
Colleges

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1352

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
2 AND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO DEVELOP STUDENT  
3 TRANSPORTATION PLANS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF  
4 SAFETY FOR STUDENTS TRAVELING TO OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS; TO REQUIRE THE  
5 STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES AND THE BOARD OF  
6 TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO REVIEW THE  
7 PLANS OF THE INSTITUTIONS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION; TO PROHIBIT  
8 INSTITUTIONS FAILING TO SUBMIT A PLAN OR CORRECT A PLAN'S  
9 DEFICIENCIES FROM USING STATE-APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR TRAVELING TO  
10 AND FROM OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 SECTION 1. (1) In order to ensure that the students  
13 enrolled in the public community and junior colleges and state  
14 institutions of higher learning in Mississippi are afforded the  
15 highest standards of safety when traveling to and from official  
16 school-related activities and events away from campus, the Board  
17 of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and the State  
18 Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall require the  
19 institutions under their jurisdiction to develop a student  
20 transportation plan. The student transportation plan must  
21 include, at a minimum, the following:

22 (a) A listing of the activities and events away from  
23 campus in which students from the institution generally  
24 participate, the approximate number of persons officially  
25 traveling from the campus to each activity or event and the  
26 vehicle or vehicles generally used to transport students to and  
27 from each activity or event;

28 (b) A description of the institution's fleet of  
29 vehicles used for transporting students to such activities and  
30 events, include the make, model and seating capacity of such

31 vehicles;

32 (c) A listing of persons authorized by the institution  
33 to operate such vehicles and the qualifications of such persons;  
34 and

35 (d) Any other information required by the Board of  
36 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning or the State  
37 Board for Community and Junior Colleges to be included in the  
38 plan.

39 (2) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher  
40 Learning and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges  
41 shall adopt rules and regulations establishing minimum  
42 requirements for student transportation plans and governing the  
43 submission of plans by the separate institutions to the respective  
44 board for review.

45 (3) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher  
46 Learning and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges  
47 shall review the student transportation plan for each institution  
48 under its jurisdiction. Upon completing a review of an  
49 institution's plan, the board shall either approve the plan or  
50 return it, along with a written statement of the board's  
51 objections and suggestions for correcting the plan's deficiencies,  
52 to the institution.

53 (4) Any institution failing to submit its student  
54 transportation plan for review to the respective board or failing  
55 to correct a plan that has not been approved may not use any  
56 state-appropriated funds for the expenses of traveling to and from  
57 any off-campus school-related activity or events.

58 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
59 and after July 1, 2000.