

By: West

To: Universities and
CollegesHOUSE BILL NO. 1352
(As Passed the House)

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.