

By: Harden

To: Education;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2262

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE A MINIMUM PERCENTAGE OF THE STATE'S GENERAL
 2 FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION TO BE ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED TO
 3 THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY
 4 AND JUNIOR COLLEGES AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
 5 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING UNTIL NO LESS THAN SIXTY-THREE
 6 PERCENT OF SUCH FUNDS IS APPROPRIATED FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES; TO
 7 EXCLUDE EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATIONS TO THE
 8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING FOR THE
 9 SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE UNITS FROM THE MINIMUM APPROPRIATION
 10 PERCENTAGE; TO PROVIDE THAT FUNDS NOT EXPENDED AT THE CLOSE OF THE
 11 FISCAL YEAR SHALL REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND; AND FOR RELATED
 12 PURPOSES.

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

14 SECTION 1. (1) For the purpose of funding the support and
 15 maintenance of public education and any related educational
 16 activities and programs in the State of Mississippi, beginning
 17 with the appropriations for Fiscal Year 2002, the Legislature
 18 shall increase annually the percentage of the state's general
 19 funds available for appropriation during the then current fiscal
 20 year which is appropriated to the State Department of Education,
 21 the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and the Board of
 22 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning so that for the
 23 appropriations for Fiscal Year 2005, sixty-three percent (63%) of
 24 the state's general funds available for appropriation for the then
 25 current fiscal year is appropriated for public education purposes.
 26 In each subsequent fiscal year, no less than sixty-three percent

27 (63%) of the state's general funds or a percentage equal to the
28 percentage of the state's general funds which was appropriated for
29 the preceding fiscal year to the State Department of Education,
30 the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and the Board of
31 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, whichever is
32 greater, shall be appropriated for such purposes.

33 (2) Any funds from the Education Enhancement Fund and any
34 appropriation made to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions
35 of Higher Learning for the support of agriculture units shall not
36 be included in the minimum appropriation percentage established
37 under this section.

38 (3) Any monies appropriated by the Legislature for the
39 purpose set forth in subsection (1) of this section which are not
40 expended during the fiscal year for which those funds were
41 appropriated shall revert to the State General Fund at the close
42 of that fiscal year.

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