AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-4-3 AND 37-102-3, MISSISSIPPI
CODE OF 1972, TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT LOWER UNDERGRADUATE
LEVEL COURSE OFFERINGS AT OFF-CAMPUS UNIVERSITY SITES BE APPROVED
BY THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES; AND FOR
RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 37-4-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

37-4-3. (1) From and after July 1, 1986, there shall be a State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, which shall receive and distribute funds appropriated by the Legislature for the use of the public community and junior colleges and funds from federal and other sources that are transmitted through the state governmental organization for use by the community and junior colleges. This board shall provide general coordination of the public community and junior colleges, assemble reports and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

(2) The board shall consist of ten (10) members of which none shall be an elected official and none shall be engaged in the educational profession. The Governor shall appoint two (2) members from the First Mississippi Congressional District, one (1) who shall serve an initial term of two (2) years and one (1) who shall serve an initial term of five (5) years; two (2) members from the Second Mississippi Congressional District, one (1) who shall serve an initial term of five (5) years and one (1) who shall serve an initial term of three (3) years; two (2) members from the Third Mississippi Congressional District, one (1) who shall serve an initial term of four (4) years and one (1) who...
shall serve an initial term of two (2) years; two (2) members from
the Fourth Mississippi Congressional District, one (1) who shall
serve an initial term of three (3) years and one (1) who shall
serve an initial term of four (4) years; and two (2) members from
the Fifth Mississippi Congressional District, one (1) who shall
serve an initial term of five (5) years and one (1) who shall
serve an initial term of two (2) years. All subsequent
appointments shall be for a term of six (6) years and continue
until their successors are appointed and qualify. An appointment
to fill a vacancy which arises for reasons other than by
expiration of a term of office shall be for the unexpired term
only. No two (2) appointees shall reside in the same junior
college district. All members shall be appointed with the advice
and consent of the Senate.

(3) There shall be a chairman and vice chairman of the
board, elected by and from the membership of the board; and the
chairman shall be the presiding officer of the board. The board
shall adopt rules and regulations governing times and places for
meetings and governing the manner of conducting its business.

(4) The members of the board shall receive no annual salary,
but shall receive per diem compensation as authorized by Section
25-3-69 for each day devoted to the discharge of official board
duties and shall be entitled to reimbursement for all actual and
necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties,
including mileage as authorized by Section 25-3-41.

(5) The board shall name a director for the state system of
public junior and community colleges, who shall serve at the
pleasure of the board. Such director shall be the chief executive
officer of the board, give direction to the board staff, carry out
the policies set forth by the board, and work with the presidents
of the several community and junior colleges to assist them in
carrying out the mandates of the several boards of trustees and in
functioning within the state system and policies established by
the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall set the salary of the Director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. The Legislature shall provide adequate funds for the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, its activities and its staff.

(6) The powers and duties of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall be:

(a) To authorize disbursements of state appropriated funds to community and junior colleges through orders in the minutes of the board.

(b) To make studies of the needs of the state as they relate to the mission of the community and junior colleges.

(c) To approve new, changes to and deletions of vocational and technical programs to the various colleges.

(d) To require community and junior colleges to supply such information as the board may request and compile, publish and make available in such reports based thereon as the board may deem advisable.

(e) To approve proposed new attendance centers (campus locations) as the local boards of trustees should determine to be in the best interest of the district. * * * However, * * * no new community or junior college branch campus shall be approved without an authorizing act of the Legislature.

(f) To serve as the state approving agency for federal funds for proposed contracts to borrow money for the purpose of acquiring land or erecting, repairing or renovating dormitories, dwellings or apartments for students * * * or faculty, such loans to be paid from revenue produced by such facilities as requested by local boards of trustees.

(g) To approve applications from community and junior colleges for state funds for vocational-technical education facilities.

* * *
(h) To appoint members to the Post-Secondary Educational Assistance Board.

(i) To appoint members to the Authority for Educational Television.

(j) To contract with other boards, commissions, governmental entities, foundations, corporations or individuals for programs, services, grants and awards when such are needed for the operation and development of the state public community and junior college system.

(k) To fix standards for community and junior colleges to qualify for appropriations, and qualifications for community and junior college teachers.

(l) To have sign-off approval on the State Plan for Vocational Education which is developed in cooperation with appropriate units of the State Department of Education.

(m) To approve or disapprove of any proposed inclusion within municipal corporate limits of state-owned buildings and grounds of any community college or junior college and to approve or disapprove of land use development, zoning requirements, building codes and delivery of governmental services applicable to state-owned buildings and grounds of any community college or junior college. Any agreement by a local board of trustees of a community college or junior college to annexation of state-owned property or other conditions described in this paragraph shall be void unless approved by the board and by the board of supervisors of the county in which the state-owned property is located.

SECTION 2. Section 37-102-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

37-102-3. **The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, in cooperation with the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, shall study the need and advisability of offering ** advanced centers for technology partnerships for industrial training and professional development
for credit and noncredit courses, at the following off-campus sites by four-year public state institutions of higher learning: the Mississippi Gulf Coast counties; Greenville, Mississippi; Columbus, Mississippi; McComb, Mississippi; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Meridian, Mississippi; Laurel, Mississippi; and any other proposed area of the state. * * * It is the intent of the Legislature to meet the educational needs of students who do not have ready access to the educational opportunities that they desire. * * * The board shall establish such rules and regulations as it deems necessary and proper to carry out the purposes and intent of this chapter.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2001.