HOUSE BILL NO. 240

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-103-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ESTABLISH THE TUITION AT STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOR NONRESIDENTS; TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-29-81 AND 37-29-423, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 37-103-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

[Until July 1, 2005, this section will read as follows:]

37-103-25. (1) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and the boards of trustees of the community colleges and junior colleges are * * * authorized to prescribe the amount of tuition and fees to be paid by students attending the several state-supported institutions of higher learning and community colleges and junior colleges of the State of Mississippi.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, in prescribing the rates to be paid by residents of other states, the total tuition shall not be less than the average cost per student from appropriated funds.

(3) (a) The tuition to be paid by a resident of another state who was enrolled at a state institution of higher learning or a state community college or junior college during the 2000-2001 academic year shall be equal to the tuition amount established under subsection (2) of this section so long as the student maintains continuous enrollment for at least two (2) semesters or three (3) quarters in each successive academic year at the state institution of higher learning or community college

(Add any necessary text here.)
or junior college in which he is enrolled. However, if the
nonresident student ceases to maintain continuous enrollment at
the state institution of higher learning or a state community
college or junior college in which he is enrolled, the tuition to
be paid by the student, upon his reenrollment, shall be determined
in accordance with paragraph (b) or (c) of this subsection. An
institution of higher learning or a community college or junior
college, in its discretion, may grant an exception to this
requirement for any nonresident student who does not maintain
continuous enrollment for the purpose of participating in a
cooperative program, internship program or foreign study program.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of
this subsection, beginning with the 2001-2002 academic year, the
tuition to be paid by residents of other states at the state
institutions of higher learning shall be equal to the average
nonresident tuition assessed by the state-supported institutions
of higher learning in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana
and Tennessee, as established annually by the Board of Trustees of
State Institutions of Higher Learning.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of
this subsection, beginning with the 2001-2002 academic year, the
tuition to be paid by residents of other states at the state
community colleges and junior colleges shall be equal to the
average nonresident tuition assessed by the state-supported
community colleges or junior colleges, or both, in the states of
Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee, as established
annually by the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

[From and after July 1, 2005, this section will read as
follows:]
several state-supported institutions of higher learning and
community colleges and junior colleges of the State of
Mississippi. * * *

(2) (a) The tuition to be paid by residents of other states
at the state institutions of higher learning shall be equal to the
average nonresident tuition assessed by the state-supported
institutions of higher learning in the states of Alabama,
Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee, as established annually by the
Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

(b) The tuition to be paid by residents of other states
at the state community colleges and junior colleges shall be equal
to the average nonresident tuition assessed by the state-supported
community colleges or junior colleges, or both, in the states of
Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee, as established
annually by the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

SECTION 2. Section 37-29-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
amended as follows:

37-29-81. The district, in the discretion of the board of
trustees, may charge fees and tuitions in accordance with Section
37-103-25.

SECTION 3. Section 37-29-423, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
amended as follows:

37-29-423. The Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College
District, in the discretion of the board of trustees, may charge
fees and tuitions in accordance with Section 37-103-25.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2001.