

By: Representative Guice

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 436

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 31-3-14, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY CERTAIN LANGUAGE RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION
3 FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 31-3-14. (1) In addition to the fees required for
8 application and renewal for certification and registration of all
9 contractors in Section 31-3-13, all holders of a certificate of
10 responsibility shall pay a fee equal to One Hundred Dollars
11 (\$100.00) at the time of application or renewal of certificates of
12 responsibility. Any residential builder licensed under the
13 provisions of Section 73-59-1 et seq. shall be exempt from the fee
14 imposed under this section. The revenue derived from such
15 additional fees shall be deposited into the "Construction
16 Education Fund," a special fund hereby created in the State
17 Treasury, and distributed by the State Board of Contractors
18 created in Section 31-3-3, to the Mississippi Construction
19 Education Foundation and public high schools and community
20 colleges that participate in the Mississippi Construction
21 Education Foundation's "school-to-work" program and state
22 universities that have construction technology programs and
23 certain construction educational trusts approved by the State
24 Board of Contractors in the manner hereinafter provided to offer
25 courses for construction education and construction craft training
26 to meet the needs of the construction industry of the State of
27 Mississippi.



28 (2) The State Board of Contractors shall, on an annual
29 basis, solicit from the Mississippi state institutions of higher
30 learning, all the public community and junior colleges, the
31 Mississippi Construction Education Foundation, public high schools
32 that participate in the Mississippi Construction Education
33 Foundation's "school-to-work" program and certain construction
34 educational trusts, applications for the use of such funds in
35 construction education and craft training programs in a manner
36 prescribed by the board. The board may appoint a technical
37 advisory committee to advise the board on the most needed areas of
38 construction education and craft training, continuing education or
39 research relating to the construction education and craft training
40 in the state, based on significant changes in the construction
41 industry's practices, economic development or on problems costing
42 public or private contractors substantial waste. The board shall
43 ensure that the monies distributed from this fund are properly
44 spent to promote construction education and craft training in
45 programs in the state which are approved by the board. At least
46 seventy-five percent (75%) of the monies distributed by the board,
47 pursuant to this section, must be used for construction craft
48 training.

49 (3) Each university, junior college, community college, the
50 Mississippi Construction Education Foundation, public high schools
51 that participate in the foundation's "school-to-work" program or
52 construction educational trust receiving funds pursuant to this
53 section for construction education or construction craft training
54 programs shall utilize such funds only for construction education
55 and craft training curricula and program development, faculty
56 development, equipment, student scholarships, student
57 assistantships, and for continuing education programs related to
58 construction education and craft training. Such funds shall not
59 be commingled with the normal operating funds of the educational
60 institution, regardless of the source of such funds.



61 (4) The State Board of Contractors shall ensure the
62 distribution of reports and the availability of construction
63 education programs established pursuant to this section to all
64 segments of the construction industry that are subject to the fee
65 provided under this section. The board shall cause a report to be
66 made to the Legislature in October of each year, summarizing the
67 allocation of funds by institution or program and summarizing the
68 new projects funded and the status of previously funded projects.

69 (5) All monies deposited into the "Construction Education
70 Fund" shall be used exclusively for construction education and
71 craft training and any unspent funds at the end of the fiscal year
72 shall not revert to the General Fund of the State Treasury but
73 shall be available for construction education and craft training
74 in subsequent fiscal years.

75 (6) All expenditures from the "Construction Education Fund"
76 shall be by requisition to the State Auditor, signed by the
77 executive secretary of the board and countersigned by the chairman
78 or vice chairman of the board, and the State Treasurer shall issue
79 his warrants thereon.

80 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
81 and after July 1, 2001.

