

By: Senator(s) Johnson (38th)

To: Universities and
Colleges

SENATE BILL NO. 2638

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL STUDENTS IN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS
2 OF EDUCATION TO COMPLETE TWO COURSES IN MULTICULTURAL
3 UNDERSTANDING; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
4 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO PRESCRIBE THE CURRICULUM FOR
5 SUCH COURSEWORK; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. (1) All students attending a college of
8 education in any public institution of higher learning in
9 Mississippi shall complete two (2) courses in multicultural
10 understanding prior to graduation. Courses in multicultural
11 understanding shall be in two (2) categories: cross-cultural
12 studies and diversity in Western experience. Each such student
13 shall complete nine (9) hours credit from each category.

14 (2) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
15 Learning, with the assistance of the Commission on Teacher and
16 Administrator Education, Certification and Development, shall
17 prescribe the courses which are approved to comply with the
18 requirements of this act. Such coursework in multicultural
19 understanding shall be approved in the following areas:

- 20 Area I - Communications
- 21 Area II - History
- 22 Area III - Social Studies
- 23 Area IV - Humanities
- 24 Area V - Natural Science
- 25 Area VI - Fine and Performing Arts

26 (3) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
27 Learning shall require the Multicultural Understanding Curriculum

28 in all public colleges of education beginning with the 2001-2002
29 school year.

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