

**\*\*\*Adopted\*\*\***

**AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO**

**Senate Bill NO. 2860**

**By Representative(s) Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

15        SECTION 1. (1) Subject to the availability of funding for  
16 such purpose, the State Superintendent of Public Education shall  
17 employ within the State Department of Education or, in the  
18 alternative, contract with the Mississippi Military Department for  
19 a statewide coordinator for Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps  
20 (JROTC) programs in the public schools. If employed by the State  
21 Department of Education, the JROTC statewide coordinator must be  
22 an active or retired member of the military and must meet any  
23 additional qualifications that may be established for the position  
24 by the State Superintendent of Public Education or State Personnel  
25 Board.

26        (2) The following are the powers and duties of the JROTC  
27 statewide coordinator:

28            (a) To coordinate training of new JROTC instructors and  
29 continuing education programs for certified instructors;

30            (b) To facilitate communication between JROTC programs  
31 in the various public schools;

32           (c) To assist in organizing competitions among JROTC  
33 units from different high schools;

34           (d) To assist in the development of the JROTC  
35 curriculum;

36           (e) To compile information on scholarships available to  
37 JROTC participants and to solicit support for such scholarships;

38           (f) To assist in establishing support groups for  
39 parents of students participating in a JROTC program;

40           (g) To solicit financial support for JROTC programs  
41 from private sector donors;

42           (h) To promote the involvement of JROTC units within  
43 their local communities;

44           (i) To facilitate interaction between JROTC units and  
45 the Mississippi National Guard and Mississippi Air National Guard;

46           (j) To promote, in general, the JROTC program in high  
47 schools throughout the state;

48           (k) To assist local schools with the application  
49 process for establishing new JROTC programs in high schools; and

50           (l) To perform such other duties relating to the JROTC  
51 program established by the State Superintendent of Public  
52 Education or State Board of Education.

53       SECTION 2. The State Board of Education shall study the  
54 issues relating to the funding of Junior Reserve Officer Training  
55 Corps (JROTC) and the licensing of JROTC instructors. In studying  
56 the licensing issue, the board shall consider the credentials  
57 required for certification as a JROTC instructor. The board shall  
58 present a report on its findings concerning these issues along  
59 with any other issues related to JROTC to the Chairman of the  
60 Education Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate  
61 before December 15, 2001, which report must include recommended

62 legislation necessary to effectuate the board's recommendations  
63 relating to JROTC.

64       SECTION 3. Subject to the availability of funding  
65 appropriated specifically for such purpose, there is established  
66 within the State Department of Education a Junior Reserve Officer  
67 Training Corps (JROTC) grant program available to public schools  
68 to assist in financing JROTC programs. The school board of a  
69 local school district may apply annually to the department on  
70 behalf of a high school or high schools within that district which  
71 have a JROTC program for a grant in the amount of Five Hundred  
72 Dollars (\$500.00) for each JROTC program per school year. The  
73 department shall create a grant application form and shall  
74 designate the date by which applications must be received by the  
75 department. In order to be eligible for a grant under the program  
76 during any school year, the school district or high school  
77 receiving the grant must agree to provide to the school's JROTC  
78 program Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), in addition to an amount  
79 equal to the local funding allocated to the program in the  
80 2000-2001 school year, from local school funds. Funds received  
81 through the JROTC grant program may be used for expenses  
82 associated with a high school's JROTC program, including:  
83 supplies; travel costs for students and instructors on official  
84 JROTC sponsored trips or attending JROTC functions; instructional  
85 materials; JROTC uniforms; official JROTC sponsored social events;  
86 and any other expenses incurred in the operations of the JROTC  
87 program.

88       SECTION 4. (1) There is established a Junior Reserve  
89 Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship program, the purpose of  
90 which is to encourage and aid eligible high school graduates to  
91 continue their participation in an ROTC program while pursuing a

92 college education.

93       (2) Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, any student  
94 classified as a freshman at a baccalaureate degree-granting  
95 institution of higher learning in the state accredited by the  
96 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and approved by the  
97 Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation or an accredited,  
98 nonprofit community or junior college in the state who graduated  
99 from a high school in Mississippi and who maintained a 2.00 grade  
100 point average calculated on a 4.00 scale in a Junior ROTC program  
101 for four (4) years in high school may apply for a scholarship  
102 under this program. An application must be accompanied by written  
103 letters of recommendation from the principal and Junior ROTC  
104 instructor of the high school from which the applicant graduated  
105 and any other information that may be required pursuant to rules  
106 or regulations established under subsection (5) of this section.  
107 In order to be eligible for a scholarship, an applicant must  
108 enroll in the first year of a two-year or four-year ROTC program  
109 at the institution in which the applicant is enrolled or accepted  
110 for enrollment.

111       (3) The maximum annual scholarship that may be awarded to a  
112 student under this program is One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per  
113 academic year. For purposes of this section, the term "academic  
114 year" means August 1 through the next succeeding July 31. The  
115 Junior ROTC scholarship is additional to any other scholarship or  
116 financial aid that the student receives, except for awards made  
117 under the Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant Program  
118 created under Section 37-106-29 or the Mississippi Eminent  
119 Scholars Grant Program created under Section 37-106-31, and may be  
120 used for any expenses associated with the student pursuing a  
121 higher education. A student may not receive more than two (2)

122 annual awards under the Junior ROTC scholarship program.

123 (4) As a condition for renewal of a scholarship, a student  
124 must make steady academic progress toward a certificate or  
125 associate or baccalaureate degree, as certified by the  
126 institution's registrar, and must maintain a cumulative grade  
127 point average of at least 2.50 calculated on a 4.00 scale at the  
128 end of each term. In addition, the student must maintain a 3.00  
129 grade point average calculated on a 4.00 scale in the ROTC  
130 program.

131 (5) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher  
132 Learning and the State Board of Education jointly shall promulgate  
133 rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes and  
134 intent of this section. The Board of Trustees of State  
135 Institutions of Higher Learning shall be the administering agency  
136 of the program.

137 (6) It is the intent of the Legislature to fully fund  
138 scholarships to eligible students under this program. If funds  
139 are insufficient to fully fund scholarships to all eligible  
140 applicants, the board shall award the scholarships to first-time  
141 freshman students on a first-come, first-served basis; however,  
142 priority consideration must be given to persons previously  
143 receiving awards under the program.

144 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
145 and after July 1, 2001.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS  
2 (JROTC) PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
3 EDUCATION TO EMPLOY OR CONTRACT WITH THE MISSISSIPPI MILITARY  
4 DEPARTMENT FOR A STATEWIDE COORDINATOR FOR JROTC PROGRAMS AND TO  
5 ESTABLISH THE DUTIES OF THE STATEWIDE COORDINATOR; TO REQUIRE THE  
6 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO STUDY ISSUES RELATING TO THE FUNDING

7 OF JROTC AND THE LICENSURE OF JROTC INSTRUCTORS AND TO REQUIRE THE  
8 BOARD TO REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE  
9 HOUSE AND SENATE BEFORE THE 2002 SESSION; TO ESTABLISH A JROTC  
10 MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST LOCAL SCHOOLS IN FUNDING JROTC  
11 PROGRAMS; TO ESTABLISH A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR JROTC STUDENTS  
12 WHO CONTINUE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ROTC IN COLLEGE; AND FOR  
13 RELATED PURPOSES.