MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representative Eads

REGULAR SESSION 2002

To: Fees and Salaries of Public Officers; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 275

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF STATE SERVICE EMPLOYEES 1 AND FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES 2 AND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING BY AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO 3 THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE COST OF LIVING INDEX AS SET BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; TO DIRECT THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD TO 4 5 ENSURE THAT CERTAIN STATE EMPLOYEES RECEIVE THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE 6 7 SALARY INCREASE; TO DIRECT THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE THE SALARY INCREASES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 8

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 9 SECTION 1. (1) The State Personnel Board shall adjust the 10 11 Colonel Guy Groff State Variable Compensation Plan in a manner that will effectuate a percentage increase in the annual 12 compensation of each state service employee, effective October 1, 13 2002, in an amount equal to the percentage increase in the cost of 14 living index as set by the United States government for January 15 2002. 16

(2) If the increases in compensation provided for in this 17 section would cause any employee's compensation to be in excess of 18 the compensation of the executive head of the state agency or 19 department in which he is employed, then that employee's 20 compensation shall be increased only to the extent that the 21 employee's salary will be equal in amount to the compensation of 22 the executive head. 23

SECTION 2. If any state employee is unable to receive the 24 full amount of the salary increase provided for in Section 1 of 25 this act because to award the entire allowable increase would 26 cause that employee's base salary to exceed the end step of his or 27 28 her particular job classification, the State Personnel Board shall amend the variable compensation plan by increasing the end step of 29 that particular job classification. The increase in the end step 30 H. B. No. 275

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31 shall be in an amount necessary to enable all employees in that 32 particular job classification to be eligible to receive the full 33 salary increase to which they are entitled pursuant to this act.

34 <u>SECTION 3.</u> The board of trustees of each public community or 35 junior college shall provide for a percentage increase in the 36 salaries of the faculty and staff of that community or junior 37 college, effective October 1, 2002, in an amount equal to the 38 percentage increase in the cost of living index as set by the 39 United States government for January 2002.

40 <u>SECTION 4.</u> The appointing authority of each state 41 institution of higher learning shall provide for a percentage 42 increase in the salaries of the faculty and staff of that 43 institution, effective October 1, 2002, in an amount equal to the 44 percentage increase in the cost of living index as set by the 45 United States government for January 2002.

46 <u>SECTION 5.</u> The Legislature shall appropriate the funds 47 necessary to provide for the increases in compensation provided 48 for in this act.

49 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from50 and after July 1, 2002.