HOUSE BILL NO. 1612
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION 37-4-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR
3 COLLEGES TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE STATE FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR
4 COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
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6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
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8 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section
9 37-4-15, Mississippi Code of 1972:
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11 (1) On or after July 1, 2002, the State Board for
12 Community and Junior Colleges shall contract with a competent
13 management consulting or accounting firm to study the state
14 funding formula for community and junior colleges. The study
15 shall accomplish the following specific outcomes:
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17 (a) Evaluate the validity of the current student
18 classifications used in the funding formula and make
19 recommendations for change in the classification system if
20 advisable;
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22 (b) Evaluate the weights assigned to each student
23 classification and make recommendations for change in the current
24 weights if advisable;
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26 (c) Identify the best management practices associated
27 with the production of graduates in each of the student
28 classifications and use such information as a basis for validating
29 any changes in weights referred to in paragraph (b) of this
30 subsection. The study of best practices shall also identify the
31 amount of state funding that is used in program areas at schools
32 exhibiting the best management practices.
33
34 (2) The report also shall recommend to the State Board for
35 Community and Junior Colleges all reporting requirements and
systems needed to collect information necessary to maintain a
valid system of weights, student classification and the best
practices associated with producing graduates most efficiently.
All community and junior colleges shall cooperate with the State
Board for Community and Junior Colleges in conducting this study
and in providing all further information on an annual basis
necessary to update the weights for programs established as a
result of this study, the best management practices and the
student classifications established as a result of this study.

(3) The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall
report its findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate
Education Committees and the House and Senate Appropriations
Committees no later than December 15, 2002.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2002.