

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Universities and
Colleges

SENATE BILL NO. 2622

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-29-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 DELETE CERTAIN MINIMUM STANDARDIZED TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR
3 PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE DUAL ENROLLMENT
4 PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-29-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-29-1. (1) The creation, establishment, maintenance and
9 operation of community and junior colleges is authorized. From
10 and after May 1, 1998, community and junior colleges may admit
11 students if they have earned one (1) unit less than the number of
12 units required for high school graduation established by State
13 Board of Education policy or have earned a General Education
14 Diploma (GED) in courses correlated to those of senior colleges or
15 professional schools. They shall offer education and training
16 preparatory for occupations such as agriculture, industry,
17 business, homemaking and for other occupations on the
18 semi-professional and vocational-technical level. They may offer
19 courses and services to students regardless of their previous
20 educational attainment or further academic plans.

21 (2) The boards of trustees of the community and junior
22 college districts are authorized to establish a dual enrollment
23 program under which high school students meeting the requirements
24 prescribed herein may enroll at a community or junior college
25 while they are still attending high school and enrolled in high
26 school courses. Students may be admitted to enroll in community
27 or junior college courses under the dual enrollment program if
28 they meet the following recommended admission requirements:



29 (a) Students must have completed a minimum of fourteen
30 (14) core high school units;

31 * * *

32 **(b)** Students must have a 3.0 grade point average on a
33 4.0 scale, or better, on all high school courses, as documented by
34 an official high school transcript; a home-schooled student must
35 submit a transcript prepared by a parent, guardian or custodian
36 with a signed, sworn affidavit to meet the requirement of this
37 paragraph **(b)**; and

38 **(c)** Students must have an unconditional written
39 recommendation from their high school principal and/or guidance
40 counselor. A home-schooled student must submit a parent, legal
41 guardian or custodian's written recommendation to meet the
42 requirement of this paragraph **(c)**.

43 Students may be considered for the dual enrollment program
44 who have not completed the minimum of fourteen (14) core high
45 school units if they have a minimum ACT composite score of thirty
46 (30) or the equivalent SAT score, and have the required grade
47 point average and recommendations prescribed above.

48 Students admitted in the dual enrollment program shall be
49 counted for minimum program funding purposes in the average daily
50 attendance of the public school district in which they attend high
51 school. Any additional transportation required by a student to
52 participate in the dual enrollment program shall be the
53 responsibility of the parents or legal guardians of the student.
54 Grades and college credits earned by students admitted to the dual
55 enrollment program shall be recorded on the college transcript at
56 the community or junior college where the student attends classes.
57 The transcript of such college course work may be released to
58 another institution or used for college graduation requirements
59 only after the student has received his high school diploma.

60 (3) The boards of trustees of the community and junior
61 college districts are authorized to establish an early admission



62 program under which applicants meeting all requirements prescribed
63 in subsection (2) (a), (b) and (c) and have a minimum ACT composite
64 score of twenty-six (26) or the equivalent SAT score may be
65 admitted as full-time college students if the principal or
66 guidance counsellor of the student recommends in writing that it
67 is in the best educational interest of the student. Such
68 recommendation shall also state that the student's age will not
69 keep him from being a successful full-time college student.
70 Students admitted in the early admission program shall not be
71 counted for minimum program funding purposes in the average daily
72 attendance of the school district in which they reside, and
73 transportation required by a student to participate in the early
74 admission program shall be the responsibility of the parents or
75 legal guardians of the student. Grades and college credits earned
76 by students admitted to the early admission program shall be
77 recorded on the college transcript at the community or junior
78 college where the student attends classes, and may be released to
79 another institution or used for college graduation requirements
80 only after the student has successfully completed one (1) full
81 semester of course work.

82 (4) In addition to the foregoing, the community and junior
83 colleges shall provide, through courses or other acceptable
84 educational measures, the general education necessary to
85 individuals and groups which will tend to make them capable of
86 living satisfactory lives consistent with the ideals of a
87 democratic society.

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

