

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Universities and
Colleges

SENATE BILL NO. 2626
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-35-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CLARIFY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND
3 JUNIOR COLLEGES TO ADMINISTER THE GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
4 (GED) TESTING PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-35-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-35-9. The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges
9 is authorized to develop and establish general educational
10 development preparatory classes in secondary schools and
11 community/junior colleges and to provide financial assistance from
12 the state for the specific purpose of preparing persons sixteen
13 (16) years of age and older, not enrolled in school or required to
14 be enrolled in school by the Compulsory School Attendance Law
15 (Section 37-13-91) to successfully write the general educational
16 development test and earn a certificate of equivalency which is
17 equivalent to the high school diploma.

18 The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges is
19 authorized to administer the General Educational Development (GED)
20 Testing Program in accordance with the policies and guidelines of
21 the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education.

22 Such administration shall include the approval of rules and
23 regulations for the administration, scoring, issuing of
24 transcripts and awarding of diplomas for the GED Testing Program.

25 The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges is hereby
26 authorized to assess a fee in an amount not to exceed Five Dollars
27 (\$5.00) for issuing an additional copy of a GED transcript or
28 diploma.



29 This program shall be administered by the State Board for
30 Community and Junior Colleges through the secondary schools and
31 community/junior colleges as the local needs indicate and are
32 practical.

33 Full and general supervision over the program by the State
34 Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall insure that
35 duplication of effort by secondary schools and community/junior
36 colleges will be eliminated; however, nothing in this section
37 shall be construed to prohibit a school district from implementing
38 a program of general educational development (GED) preparatory
39 instruction * * *.

40 Adult students for general educational development
41 preparatory classes may be accepted by schools and junior colleges
42 from any area of the state provided students are bona fide
43 residents of Mississippi.

44 Instructors, counselors and supervisors utilized in the
45 teaching of general educational development preparatory classes
46 shall be licensed in the appropriate area as required by the State
47 Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

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

