

By: Representative Moody

To: Universities and
Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 1203

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
2 TWO-YEAR OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES TO BE VACCINATED
3 AGAINST HEPATITIS A AND B; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) A person enrolling as a full-time or
6 part-time student at a public or private two-year or four-year
7 college or university in this state shall present evidence of
8 vaccinations against the infectious diseases of hepatitis A and
9 hepatitis B or shall complete vaccinations within nine (9) months
10 of attendance as a condition of continued attendance at that
11 college or university, except as provided in subsection (3) of
12 this section.

13 (2) The college or university shall provide enrolling
14 persons with educational information of hepatitis A and B. The
15 college or university is not required to provide or pay for
16 vaccinations against hepatitis A and B.

17 (3) A student shall not be required to receive a vaccination
18 if he or she provides one (1) of the following:

19 (a) A written statement submitted to the college or
20 university by a licensed physician indicating that the vaccine is
21 medically contraindicated; or

22 (b) A written statement submitted to the college or
23 university by the student, or the student's parent or guardian if
24 the student is a minor, explaining how the administration of the
25 vaccine conflicts with the bona fide religious tenets or practices
26 of the student, or the parent or guardian, as appropriate, except



27 that a general philosophical or moral objection to the vaccination
28 shall not be sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

29 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
30 and after July 1, 2003.

