

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Universities and  
Colleges; Public Health and  
Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2461

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 Hepatitis A and B or shall complete  
9 vaccinations within nine (9) months of attendance as a condition  
10 of continued attendance at that college or university, except as  
11 provided in subsection (3) of this section.

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

16 (3) A student shall not be required to receive a vaccination  
17 based upon one of the following:

18 (a) A written statement submitted to the college or  
19 university by a licensed physician indicating that the vaccine is  
20 medically contraindicated shall exempt a person from the  
21 vaccination; 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.

