

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

S. B. No. 3117: Appropriation; Student Financial Aid.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
8 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State
9 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the Board of Trustees
10 of State Institutions of Higher Learning for the support and
11 maintenance of financial aid scholarship, loan and grant programs
12 authorized by law and administered by the Mississippi Office of
13 Student Financial Aid and for support of the Mississippi Office of
14 Student Financial Aid, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004,
15 and ending June 30, 2005..... \$ 26,933,009.00.

16 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
17 necessary, is hereby authorized out of the proceeds derived from
18 any federal funds, grants, donations, fees, or other special
19 source funds which are collected by or otherwise become available
20 for the support and maintenance of financial aid scholarship, loan
21 and grant programs authorized by law and administered by the
22 Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid and for support of the
23 Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid, for the fiscal year
24 beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005.....
25 \$ 9,890,630.00.

26 **SECTION 3.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be
27 necessary, is hereby authorized for expenditure out of carryover
28 funds in State Treasury Fund 325E, pursuant to Section 37-106-33,

29 Mississippi Code of 1972, for the support and maintenance of the
30 Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant Program and the
31 Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant Program, for the fiscal year
32 beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005.....
33 \$ 3,283,844.00.

34 **SECTION 4.** Any transfers or escalations shall be made in
35 accordance with the terms, conditions, and procedures established
36 by law.

37 Provided, however, that none of the funds apportioned in this
38 act for the Out-of-State Educational Program shall be paid to or
39 for the benefit of any student who enters a school outside the
40 State of Mississippi for the first time, subsequent to July 1,
41 1982, in any discipline in the fields of medicine or dentistry.

42 **SECTION 5.** It is the intention of the Legislature that of
43 the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 1, the
44 Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning
45 shall expend from the support of the out-of-state graduate and
46 professional studies program an amount not exceeding the funding
47 necessary, contingent upon the availability of qualified
48 applicants, for ten (10) new entering optometry students and the
49 number of returning optometry students who received funding under
50 the program during the preceding school year; for ten (10) new
51 entering chiropractic students, with not more than twenty-five
52 (25) chiropractic students overall; and seven (7) new entering
53 osteopathic medical students and the number of returning
54 osteopathic medical students who received funding under the
55 program during the preceding school year, for these courses of
56 study.

57 **SECTION 6.** In the allocation of funds appropriated under the
58 provisions of Sections 1, 2, and 3 among the student financial aid
59 programs included herein, it is the intention of the Legislature
60 that priority shall be given and funds shall be first allocated to

61 all students eligible for financial aid under the provisions of
62 Sections 37-107-1 through 37-107-7 and Sections 37-108-1 through
63 37-108-5, Mississippi Code of 1972.

64 **SECTION 7.** All funds provided for in this act shall be
65 accounted for in a detailed statement showing when, to whom, and
66 for what purpose applied, and this statement shall be submitted at
67 the next regular session of the Legislature within ten (10) days
68 after the convening thereof. A report of loans made and receipt
69 of repayment of loans to the fund shall be reported. The amount
70 of repayment that is in arrears shall also be included. Such
71 report shall include the number of students at each institution
72 receiving financial assistance and the amount of such assistance,
73 and an estimate of the financial requirement of the various loan
74 programs for the next year. No public or private institution of
75 higher learning receiving funds under the respective provisions of
76 this act, for the purpose of issuing scholarship grants or loans,
77 shall issue any official transcripts for any persons who have any
78 amount of repayment in arrears on that date such official
79 transcript is requested.

80 Furthermore, all funds received and expended shall be
81 reported and otherwise accounted for in accordance with the
82 provisions of Section 37-143-21, Mississippi Code of 1972.

83 **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the
84 agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2006 shall be submitted to
85 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of
86 detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided
87 during the Fiscal Year 2005 budget request process.

88 **SECTION 9.** Any funds appropriated pursuant to this act and
89 paid as a fee to or deposited in a financial institution shall be
90 in compliance with Section 109 of the Constitution of the State of
91 Mississippi and Section 25-4-103, Mississippi Code of 1972.

92 **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions
93 of Section 2, One Hundred Seventy-seven Thousand Five Hundred
94 Sixty-three Dollars (\$177,563.00) shall be derived from the Health
95 Care Expendable Fund created in Section 43-13-407, Mississippi
96 Code of 1972.

97 **SECTION 11.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by
98 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the
99 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon
100 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal
101 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the
102 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

103 **SECTION 12.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
104 and after July 1, 2004.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Jack Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Mike Chaney

X (SIGNED)
T. O. Moffatt

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Johnny W. Stringer

X (SIGNED)
Jack Gadd

X (SIGNED)
Lee Jarrell Davis