

By: Representative Young

To: Universities and  
CollegesHOUSE BILL NO. 1119  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-103-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO CLARIFY THE RESIDENCE STATUS OF SPOUSE AND CHILDREN OF MILITARY  
3 PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSES OF ATTENDING  
4 STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND JUNIOR  
5 COLLEGES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-103-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 37-103-19. (1) Resident status of a spouse or children of  
10 members of the armed forces on extended active duty shall be that  
11 of the military parent for the purpose of attending  
12 state-supported institutions of higher learning and junior  
13 colleges of the State of Mississippi during the time that their  
14 military parents are stationed within the State of Mississippi and  
15 shall be continued through the time that military parents are  
16 stationed in an overseas area with last duty assignment within the  
17 State of Mississippi, excepting temporary training assignments en  
18 route from Mississippi. Resident status of minor children shall  
19 terminate upon reassignment under Permanent Change of Station  
20 Orders of their military parents for duty in the continental  
21 United States outside the State of Mississippi, excepting  
22 temporary training assignments en route from Mississippi, except  
23 that children of members of the Armed Forces who attain  
24 Mississippi residency in accordance with the above provisions, who  
25 begin and complete their senior year of high school in  
26 Mississippi, and who enroll full time in a Mississippi institution  
27 of higher learning or junior college to begin studies in the fall  
28 after their graduation from high school, shall maintain their

residency status so long as they remain enrolled and a student in good standing at a Mississippi institution of higher learning or junior college (enrollment during summer school not required).

(2) The spouse or child of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who dies or is killed is entitled to pay the resident tuition fee if the spouse or child becomes a resident of Mississippi within one hundred eighty (180) days of the date of death.

(3) If a member of the Armed Forces of the United States is stationed outside Mississippi and the member's spouse or child established residence in Mississippi by residing in Mississippi and by filing with the Mississippi institution of higher learning or community college at which the spouse or child plans to register a letter of intent to establish residence in Mississippi, the institution of higher education or community college shall permit the spouse or child to pay the tuition, fees and other charges provided for Mississippi residents without regard to length of time that the spouse or child has resided in Mississippi.

(4) A member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the child or spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate provided for Mississippi residents under another provision of this section while enrolled in a degree or certificate program is entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate provided for Mississippi residents in any subsequent term or semester while the person is continuously enrolled in the same degree or certificate program. A student may be allowed to withdraw or may choose not to enroll no more than one (1) semester, only if that student provides sufficient documentation by a physician that the student has a medical condition that requires withdrawal or nonenrollment. For purposes of this subsection, a person is not required to enroll in a summer term to remain continuously enrolled in a

62 degree or certificate program. The person's eligibility to pay  
63 tuition and fees at the rate provided for Mississippi residents  
64 under this subsection does not terminate because the person is no  
65 longer a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the  
66 child or spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United  
67 States.

68       **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
69 and after its passage.