

## House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2731

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

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

9           SECTION 1. (1) There is created a commission to study the  
10 effectiveness and efficiency of the Mississippi Adequate Education  
11 Program (MAEP) in providing adequacy and equity in public school  
12 funding. The commission shall, at a minimum, study and report on  
13 the following factors related to MAEP:

14                   (a) Efficiency;

15                   (b) Selection of school districts for funding  
16 calculations;

17                   (c) High growth districts;

18                   (d) State and local contributions;

19                   (e) Add on programs; and

20                   (f) Consolidation of school districts.

21 The State Board of Education shall contract with a consulting firm  
22 that has expertise in public school funding formulas to assist the  
23 commission with the study. The commission shall make a report of  
24 its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by November 1,  
25 2005, including any recommended legislation.

26           (2) The commission shall be composed of the following ten  
27 (10) members:

28                   (a) The Chairman of the House and Senate Education  
29 Committees;

30                   (b) The Chairman of the House and Senate Appropriation  
31 Committees;

32                   (c) Three (3) representatives to be appointed by the  
33 Speaker of the House; and

34 (d) Three (3) senators to be appointed by the  
35 Lieutenant Governor.

36 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after  
37 the effective date of this act. The commission shall hold its  
38 first meeting before August 1, 2005. The Chairman of the House  
39 Education Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Education  
40 Committee shall serve as cochairmen of the commission.

41 (4) Members of the commission may not be compensated for the  
42 performance of their duties. Any incidental costs associated with  
43 conducting the study shall be paid by the State Department of  
44 Education.

45 (5) To effectuate the purposes of this section, any  
46 department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the  
47 state or of any political subdivision thereof shall, at the  
48 request of the chairperson of the task force, provide to the  
49 commission such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the  
50 commission to properly carry out its duties.

51 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is created a commission to study the  
52 effectiveness and efficiency of the administration of college  
53 tuition assistance programs administered by the institutions of  
54 higher learning. In addition, the commission shall evaluate  
55 merit-based college tuition assistance programs and procedures and  
56 guidelines for implementing merit-based programs.

57 The commission shall make a report of its findings and  
58 recommendations to the House and Senate Education Committees by  
59 October 1, 2005, including any recommended legislation.

60 (2) The commission shall be composed of the following three  
61 (3) members:

62 (a) A representative of the State Department of  
63 Education, to be appointed by the State Superintendent of Public  
64 Education;

65 (b) A representative from the institutions of higher  
66 learning, to be appointed by the commissioner;

67 (c) A representative from the State Board for Community  
68 and Junior Colleges, to be appointed by the chairman of the board.

69           (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after  
70 the effective date of this act. The commission shall hold its  
71 first meeting before July 15, 2005.

72           (4) Members of the commission may not be compensated for the  
73 performance of their duties. Any incidental costs associated with  
74 conducting the study shall be paid by the State Department of  
75 Education.

76           (5) To effectuate the purposes of this section, any  
77 department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the  
78 state or of any political subdivision thereof shall, at the  
79 request of the chairperson of the task force, provide to the  
80 commission such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the  
81 commission to properly carry out its duties.

82           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
83 and after its passage.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1           AN ACT TO CREATE A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS AND  
2 EFFICIENCY OF THE MISSISSIPPI ADEQUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM IN  
3 PROVIDING ADEQUACY AND EQUITY IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING; TO CREATE  
4 A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE  
5 ADMINISTRATION OF COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED  
6 BY THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND EVALUATE MERIT BASED  
7 COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR40\SB2731PH.J

Don Richardson  
Clerk of the House of Representatives