

By: Senator(s) Dearing

To: Universities and
Colleges; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2078

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-103-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ANY COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE
3 DISTRICT TO WAIVE OUT-OF-STATE OR OUT-OF-DISTRICT TUITION FOR ANY
4 STUDENT LIVING WITHIN 50 MILES OF A CAMPUS OR BRANCH FACILITY OF
5 SUCH DISTRICT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-103-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-103-25. (1) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions
10 of Higher Learning and the boards of trustees of the community
11 colleges and junior colleges are authorized to prescribe the
12 amount of tuition and fees to be paid by students attending the
13 several state-supported institutions of higher learning and
14 community colleges and junior colleges of the State of
15 Mississippi.

16 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the
17 total tuition to be paid by residents of other states shall not be
18 less than the average cost per student from appropriated funds.
19 However, the tuition to be paid by a resident of another state
20 shall be equal to the tuition amount established under subsection
21 (1) of this section if:

22 (a) The nonresident student was born in the State of
23 Mississippi but subsequently relocated and resided outside the
24 state as a minor under the care of the minor's father or mother,
25 or both;

26 (b) The nonresident student is a veteran who served in
27 the Armed Forces of the United States;

28 (c) The nonresident student is domiciled in Mississippi
29 no later than six (6) months after the nonresident student's
30 separation from service, as evidenced by a Report of Separation
31 from Military Service or other military discharge document, for
32 the purpose of enrolling in a state institution of higher learning
33 or a community or junior college; or

34 (d) The nonresident student is an evacuee of an area
35 affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. This waiver
36 shall be applicable to the 2005-2006 school year only.

37 (3) Provided, however, that the board of trustees of any
38 community/junior college district is hereby authorized, in its
39 discretion, to waive out-of-state or out-of-district tuition for
40 any student living within fifty (50) miles of a campus or branch
41 facility of such district.

42 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
43 and after July 1, 2006.