

By: Representatives Rogers (61st), Mayo

To: Military Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 617  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 33-7-405, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL TO AUTHORIZE STATE  
3 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDS FOR ROOM AND BOARD PAYMENTS  
4 TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS IN AN OFFICER PRODUCING PROGRAM; AND FOR  
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 33-7-405, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 33-7-405. The Adjutant General is hereby authorized to pay  
10 the tuition, room and board for any active member of the  
11 Mississippi National Guard who is enrolled or may enroll within  
12 the State of Mississippi in an accredited institution of higher  
13 learning, vocational education school or junior college. To be  
14 eligible for such benefits, the individual, at the time of his  
15 initial enrollment, must be a captain, lieutenant, warrant  
16 officer, cadet, officer candidate or enlisted member of the  
17 Mississippi National Guard, or a member of such guard who is  
18 participating in the educational program authorized by this  
19 section as of the effective date of this article; be at least  
20 seventeen (17) years of age; and be a resident and a qualified  
21 elector of the State of Mississippi. To be eligible for the room  
22 and board grant, an individual must also be in an officer  
23 producing program and be selected to receive the grant by the  
24 Adjutant General. The tuition may only be used for undergraduate  
25 studies and vocational education courses, whether such coursework  
26 is taken on a semester or clock-hour basis. In no event will any  
27 individual be eligible for payment of tuition after receipt of an  
28 undergraduate degree, whether received through this article or

29 not. No person shall be eligible for a tuition and/or a room and  
30 board grant for more than ten (10) years after the date of the  
31 first tuition payment for him under this article. The Adjutant  
32 General shall set up minimum standards for performance that must  
33 be met in order to maintain eligibility for continuing in the  
34 program.

35 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
36 and after July 1, 2007.