

By: Representative Watson

To: Universities and
Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1470

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
2 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO REESTABLISH AN EQUIPMENT
3 LEASING AND PURCHASE PROGRAM FOR THE STATE INSTITUTIONS AND
4 UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section, the term "state
7 institutions of higher learning" means those institutions
8 identified in Section 37-101-1 and the University Research Center.

9 (2) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
10 Learning may establish an equipment leasing and purchase program
11 for the use of the state institutions of higher learning. In
12 establishing and administering the program, the board may perform
13 the following actions:

14 (a) Adopt policies and procedures to implement the
15 program;

16 (b) Establish offices or subordinate units as may be
17 necessary for the administration of the program;

18 (c) Adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the
19 program;

20 (d) Acquire by purchase, lease or lease-purchase
21 contract and retain or transfer ownership or possession of
22 instructional and other equipment;

23 (e) Contract for the leasing of such properties and for
24 the financing of leases and purchases;

25 (f) Enter into contracts with others to provide any
26 services deemed necessary and advisable by the board;

27 (g) Make purchases and enter into leases according to
28 the requirements of the state public purchasing laws and the

29 requirements of those laws establishing the Mississippi Department
30 of Information Technology Services;

31 (h) Enter into lease financing agreements in connection
32 with purchases made under the authority of this section;

33 (i) Require the transfer of appropriations of general
34 funds or self-generated funds from the state institutions to those
35 funds that the board may determine are required in connection with
36 any lease financing agreements;

37 (j) Develop administrative methods for determining age,
38 useful life, replacement value, current use, condition and other
39 characteristics of instructional and research equipment at the
40 state institutions and research facilities;

41 (k) Determine obsolescence of the equipment and
42 establish priorities for replacement or provision of the equipment
43 or its transfer to another state institution that can continue to
44 utilize it; and

45 (l) Develop long-range plans for the orderly and
46 systematic acquisition and utilization of the instructional and
47 research equipment in order to eliminate waste and duplication,
48 provide the maximum efficiency of use for expenditures, and
49 achieve equitable allocations of equipment funds to the state
50 institutions consistent with the roles of the institutions and
51 disciplines served.

52 (3) All state institutions desiring to purchase, lease or
53 lease-purchase equipment involving an expenditure or expenditures
54 of more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) must procure that
55 equipment under the equipment leasing and purchase program unless
56 funds for the procurement of the equipment under the program are
57 unavailable or the equipment can be procured elsewhere at an
58 overall cost lower than that for which the equipment can be
59 procured under the program.

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