

By: Senator(s) Gordon, Frazier, Albritton, Brown, Burton, Butler, Carmichael, Chaney, Chassaniol, Davis, Dearing, Fillingane, Gollott, Harden, Horhn, Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th), Jackson (15th), Jackson (32nd), Jordan, King, Lee (47th), Lee (35th), Little, Moffatt, Morgan, Nunnelee, Pickering, Posey, Ross, Simmons, Thames, Walley, White, Wilemon, Williamson, Clarke

To: Universities and Colleges; Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2364

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ANNUALLY  
2 APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR MID-LEVEL FUNDING FOR MISSISSIPPI'S PUBLIC  
3 COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

6 (1) Mississippi's public community and junior colleges are  
7 Mississippi's best educational buy. An education at Mississippi's  
8 community and junior colleges is affordable and accessible to all.  
9 Mississippians have an option to attend a community or junior  
10 college close to home, with smaller class sizes and at  
11 approximately one-half (1/2) the cost of tuition at a public  
12 four-year institution;

13 (2) In recent fiscal years, appropriations for community and  
14 junior colleges have not kept pace with increases appropriated to  
15 K-12 and the state institutions of higher learning;

16 (3) A need exists to provide adequate funding for  
17 Mississippi's community and junior colleges; and

18 (4) Adequate funding should be accomplished through  
19 appropriate funding on a full-time equivalency (FTE) basis.

20 **SECTION 2.** As used in this act:

21 (1) "Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Enrollment" shall be  
22 calculated from credit/contact hour data as defined by the  
23 Southeastern Regional Education Board (SREB). Annual total  
24 undergraduate semester credit hours are divided by thirty (30);  
25 total undergraduate quarter hours are divided by forty-five (45);  
26 total graduate semester credit hours are divided by twenty-four

27 (24); and total graduate quarter hours are divided by thirty-six  
28 (36).

29 (2) "State funds" means all funds appropriated from the  
30 State Legislature, including the General Fund, the Education  
31 Enhancement Fund, the Budget Contingency Fund and the Healthcare  
32 Expendable Trust Fund.

33 (3) "E & G operations" means education and general expenses  
34 of the colleges and universities.

35 (4) "Average Daily Attendance (ADA)" means the figure which  
36 results when the total aggregate attendance during the period or  
37 months counted is divided by the number of days during the period  
38 or months counted upon which both teachers and pupils are in  
39 regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction less the  
40 average daily attendance for self-contained special education  
41 classes and, prior to full implementation of the adequate  
42 education program the department shall deduct the average  
43 attendance of the alternative school program provided for in  
44 Section 37-19-22, Mississippi Code of 1972.

45 **SECTION 3.** (1) In funding community and junior colleges,  
46 the amount of the annual appropriation of the community and junior  
47 colleges' general support bill shall be computed as follows:

48 (a) Calculate the state funding per student for K-12 by  
49 dividing the total revenue from state funds by the ADA. Both  
50 funding and ADA figures shall be provided by the Mississippi  
51 Department of Education;

52 (b) Calculate the state funding per FTE for regional  
53 universities by dividing these state funds for E&G operations by  
54 FTE. Both funding and enrollment figures shall come from the SREB  
55 State Data Exchange and the state institutions of higher learning;

56 (c) Mid-level funding for community and junior colleges  
57 shall be the average as computed from (a) and (b) above multiplied  
58 by the total community and junior college FTE's. This amount

59 shall be appropriated annually by the Legislature to the community  
60 and junior colleges.

61 (2) Data used in the calculation of (a), (b) and (c) above  
62 shall be the most current available data utilizing the same fiscal  
63 year for all entities involved. Information from the SREB State  
64 Data Exchange will be used to ensure common denominators in the  
65 calculation of full-time equivalent enrollment and to ensure  
66 consistent reporting of financial data.

67 **SECTION 4.** Any increase of funds calculated under this act  
68 over the fiscal year 2007 level of state funding shall be  
69 phased-in over a three-fiscal-year period as provided in the  
70 following:

71 (a) For fiscal year 2008, one-third (1/3) of the  
72 calculated increase shall be funded;

73 (b) For fiscal year 2009, two-thirds (2/3) of the  
74 calculated increase shall be funded;

75 (c) For fiscal year 2010, one hundred percent (100%) of  
76 the calculated increase shall be funded.

77 **SECTION 5.** This act shall be codified in Title 37, Chapter  
78 29, Mississippi Code of 1972.

79 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
80 and after July 1, 2007.