

By: Senator(s) King

To: Universities and
Colleges; Judiciary, Division
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SENATE BILL NO. 3015

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-105-3 AND 37-29-275, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO EXPEND THE JURISDICTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
3 OFFICERS EMPLOYED AND DESIGNATED BY A STATE UNIVERSITY OR PUBLIC
4 COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE TO INCLUDE THE AREA WITHIN 500 FEET OF
5 UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE PROPERTY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-105-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-105-3. The traffic officers duly appointed by the
10 president of any state institution of higher learning, or any
11 peace officer or highway patrolman of this state, are vested with
12 the powers and authority to perform all duties incident to
13 enforcing such rules and regulations as may be enacted under the
14 authority granted in Section 37-105-1, including the arrest of
15 violators. The peace officers duly appointed by the state
16 institution of higher learning is also vested with the powers and
17 subjected to the duties of a constable for the purpose of
18 preventing all violations of law that occur within five hundred
19 (500) feet of any property owned by the university, if reasonably
20 determined to have a possible impact on the safety of students,
21 faculty or staff of the university while on said property.
22 Provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be
23 interpreted to require action by any such peace officer appointed
24 by the university to events occurring outside the boundaries of
25 university property, nor shall any such university or its
26 employees be liable for any failure to act to any event occurring
27 outside the boundaries of property owned by the university. The
28 university may enter into an interlocal agreement with other law

29 enforcement entities for the provision of equipment or traffic
30 control duties, however, the duty to enforce traffic regulations
31 and to enforce the laws of the state or municipality off of
32 university property lies with the local police or sheriff's
33 department which cannot withhold its services solely because of
34 the lack of such an agreement.

35 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-29-275, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
36 amended as follows:

37 37-29-275. Any act, which, if committed within the limits of
38 a city, town or village, or in any public place, would be a
39 violation of the general laws of this state, shall be criminal and
40 punishable if done on the campus, grounds or roads of any of the
41 state-supported junior colleges. The peace officers duly
42 appointed by the board of trustees of state-supported community or
43 junior colleges or officers of private security firms licensed by
44 the State of Mississippi contracted by the boards of trustees of
45 state supported community/junior colleges are vested with the
46 powers and subjected to the duties of a constable for the purpose
47 of preventing and punishing all violations of law on
48 state-supported junior college grounds and for preserving order
49 and decorum thereon. Peace officers appointed by the boards of
50 trustees or officers of private security firms licensed by the
51 State of Mississippi contracted by the boards of trustees shall
52 have authority to bear arms in order to carry out their law
53 enforcement responsibilities if such officers have been certified
54 according to the minimum standards established by the Board on Law
55 Enforcement Officer Standards and Training. The peace officers
56 duly appointed by the boards of trustees of public
57 community/junior colleges are also vested with the powers and
58 subjected to the duties of a constable for the purpose of
59 preventing all violations of law that occur within five hundred
60 (500) feet of any property owned by the college, if reasonably
61 determined to have a possible impact on the safety of students,

62 faculty or staff of the college while on said property. Provided,
63 however, that nothing in this section shall be interpreted to
64 require action by any such peace officer appointed by a college to
65 events occurring outside the boundaries of college property, nor
66 shall any such college or its employees be liable for any failure
67 to act to any event occurring outside the boundaries of property
68 owned by the college. If a law enforcement officer is duly
69 appointed to be a peace officer by a college under this section,
70 the board of trustees of the public community/junior college may
71 enter into an interlocal agreement with other law enforcement
72 entities for the provision of equipment or traffic control duties,
73 however, the duty to enforce traffic regulations and to enforce
74 the laws of the state or municipality off of college property lies
75 with the local police or sheriff's department which cannot
76 withhold its services solely because of the lack of such an
77 agreement.

78 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after July 1, 2007.