

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 617**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

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. Any such grant for room and board shall be  
25 subject to specific appropriation therefor by the Legislature.

26 The tuition may only be used for undergraduate studies and  
27 vocational education courses, whether such coursework is taken on  
28 a semester or clock-hour basis. In no event will any individual  
29 be eligible for payment of tuition after receipt of an  
30 undergraduate degree, whether received through this article or  
31 not. No person shall be eligible for a tuition and/or a room and  
32 board grant for more than ten (10) years after the date of the  
33 first tuition payment for him under this article. The Adjutant  
34 General shall set up minimum standards for performance that must  
35 be met in order to maintain eligibility for continuing in the  
36 program.

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

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

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.