

By: Representatives Brown, Scott, Clark

To: Education; Universities
and CollegesHOUSE BILL NO. 1163
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
2 EDUCATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE EXECUTIVE
3 DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES,
4 ACTING JOINTLY, TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT AND
5 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONS OF "EARLY
6 COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS"; TO REQUIRE THAT THE REPORT BE SUBMITTED TO
7 THE 2012 LEGISLATURE WITH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE
8 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM IN THE
9 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
10 EDUCATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
11 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY
12 AND JUNIOR COLLEGES, TO STUDY AND DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
13 AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADULT HIGH SCHOOL
14 DIPLOMA; TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS AND A
15 GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT TO SERVE ON THE STUDY PANEL FOR THE
16 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; TO AMEND SECTION
17 37-29-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY; TO REPEAL
18 SECTION 37-15-37, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES
19 AUTHORITY TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
20 STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO ESTABLISH DUAL ENROLLMENT
21 PROGRAMS ALLOWING CERTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ENROLL IN STATE
22 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, AND SECTION 37-101-28,
23 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES FOR ARTICULATION
24 AGREEMENTS ON DUAL CREDIT COURSES TAKEN BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS;
25 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

27 **SECTION 1.** (1) The State Superintendent of Public
28 Education, the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Executive
29 Director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges,
30 acting jointly, shall develop a comprehensive report and
31 recommendations to the 2012 Legislature on the implementation and
32 operations of "Early College High Schools." The report shall be
33 submitted no later than January 2, 2012, and shall provide, at a
34 minimum, the following:

35 (a) A clear definition of what constitutes an Early
36 College High School and how it enhances education and job-related
37 opportunities;



38 (b) The mission and intent of such schools;
39 (c) The established criteria for admission;
40 (d) An outline of the comprehensive costs of
41 establishing and operating such a school, including
42 transportation, and recommendations on how the state and local
43 school districts should pay those costs;
44 (e) A requirement to provide reports on the status and
45 level of success of operating Early College High Schools in other
46 states across the country;
47 (f) Implications for student participation in sports
48 programs and other extracurricular activities when attending an
49 Early College High School;
50 (g) An identification of and recommendations on any
51 state laws and policies that may need amending to provide
52 authority for the implementation and operation of such schools;
53 (h) Recommendations and costs for state and local
54 funding of transportation services for other forms of dual
55 enrollment programs operated across the state; and
56 (i) Any other information as determined to be necessary
57 to benefit the scope and detail of the report.

58 (2) The State Superintendent of Public Education, the
59 Commissioner of Higher Education and the Executive Director of the
60 State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, acting jointly,
61 shall include specific recommendations on the establishment of an
62 Early College High School Pilot Program in Mississippi in the
63 report submitted to the 2012 Legislature.

64 **SECTION 2.** (1) The State Board of Education, in conjunction
65 with the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
66 Learning and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges,
67 shall study and develop a comprehensive report and recommendations
68 to the 2012 Legislature, by January 2, 2012, on the
69 implementation, expansion and costs associated with the
70 establishment of an Adult High School Diploma. The Chairmen of



71 the House and Senate Education Committees, or their respective
72 designees, and a representative appointed by the Governor, shall
73 serve on the study panel for the development of an Adult High
74 School Diploma.

75 (2) The gubernatorial appointment to the study panel shall
76 be made within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this
77 act.

78 (3) Legislative members of the study panel shall serve
79 without compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for
80 necessary expense in attending to the actual business of the study
81 panel from any available funds, as provided by law. Legislative
82 members shall be reimbursed from the contingent expense fund of
83 their respective house, but only with the specific approval of the
84 Rules Committee of the respective house; however, no expense for
85 attending meetings of the study panel may be paid while the
86 Legislature is in session.

87 **SECTION 3.** Section 37-29-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
88 amended as follows:

89 37-29-1. (1) The creation, establishment, maintenance and
90 operation of community and junior colleges is authorized.
91 Community and junior colleges may admit students if they have
92 earned one (1) unit less than the number of units required for
93 high school graduation established by State Board of Education
94 policy or have earned a General Education Diploma (GED) in courses
95 correlated to those of senior colleges or professional schools.
96 They shall offer education and training preparatory for
97 occupations such as agriculture, industry, business, homemaking
98 and for other occupations on the semiprofessional and
99 vocational-technical level. They may offer courses and services
100 to students regardless of their previous educational attainment or
101 further academic plans.

102 * * *



103 (2) The boards of trustees of the community and junior
104 college districts are authorized to establish an early admission
105 program under which applicants * * * having a minimum ACT
106 composite score of twenty-six (26) or the equivalent SAT score may
107 be admitted as full-time college students if the principal or
108 guidance counselor of the student recommends in writing that it is
109 in the best educational interest of the student. Such
110 recommendation shall also state that the student's age will not
111 keep him from being a successful full-time college student.
112 Students admitted in the early admission program shall not be
113 counted for adequate education program funding purposes in the
114 average daily attendance of the school district in which they
115 reside, and transportation required by a student to participate in
116 the early admission program shall be the responsibility of the
117 parents or legal guardians of the student. Grades and college
118 credits earned by students admitted to the early admission program
119 shall be recorded on the college transcript at the community or
120 junior college where the student attends classes, and may be
121 released to another institution or used for college graduation
122 requirements only after the student has successfully completed one
123 (1) full semester of course work.

124 (3) The community and junior colleges shall provide, through
125 courses or other acceptable educational measures, the general
126 education necessary to individuals and groups which will tend to
127 make them capable of living satisfactory lives consistent with the
128 ideals of a democratic society.

129 **SECTION 4.** Section 37-15-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, which
130 provides authority to local school districts and the Board of
131 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning to establish
132 dual enrollment programs allowing certain high school students to
133 enroll in state institutions of higher learning, and Section
134 37-101-28, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provides for



135 articulation agreements on dual credit courses taken by high
136 school students, are repealed.

137 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
138 and after its passage.

