

By: Representative Scott

To: Universities and  
Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 512

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ENGINEERING STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP  
2 PROGRAM FOR APPLICANTS TO OBTAIN AN UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE  
3 EDUCATION AT A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING IN MISSISSIPPI  
4 THAT IS NECESSARY TO BECOME A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER; TO  
5 PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
6 LEARNING SHALL ADMINISTER THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE THAT  
7 THE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM WILL BE  
8 EQUAL TO THE TOTAL COST OF TUITION AND FEES AT THE COLLEGE OR  
9 UNIVERSITY IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED; TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
10 BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL MAKE THE FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM EQUALLY  
11 AVAILABLE TO EACH STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING IN  
12 MISSISSIPPI THAT OFFERS AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN AN ENGINEERING  
13 CURRICULUM; TO PROVIDE THAT SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THE PROGRAM WILL  
14 NOT BE BASED UPON AN APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID; TO  
15 PROVIDE THAT AFTER A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT HAS OBTAINED A  
16 BACHELOR'S DEGREE THAT IS NECESSARY TO BECOME LICENSED AS A  
17 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER AND HAS RECEIVED SUCH A LICENSE FROM THE  
18 LICENSING BOARD, THE PERSON SHALL BE REQUIRED TO RENDER SERVICE AS  
19 AN ENGINEER FOR A STATE AGENCY FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN FOUR  
20 YEARS; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT WHO FAILS TO  
21 COMPLETE A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT IS NECESSARY TO BECOME LICENSED  
22 AS A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, OR WHO FAILS TO RECEIVE SUCH A LICENSE  
23 FROM THE LICENSING BOARD, WILL BECOME LIABLE IMMEDIATELY FOR THE  
24 SUM OF ALL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PLUS INTEREST; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY  
25 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT WHO FAILS TO COMPLETE THE SERVICE OBLIGATION  
26 AS AN ENGINEER FOR NOT LESS THAN FOUR YEARS WILL BECOME LIABLE  
27 IMMEDIATELY FOR THE SUM OF ALL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PLUS INTEREST;  
28 TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO PROMULGATE RULES AND  
29 REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
30 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE FUNDED BY  
31 AN ADDITIONAL FEE ON THE RECORDING OF OIL AND GAS LEASES, AND ANY  
32 ADDITIONAL FUNDS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR  
33 THE PROGRAM; TO CREATE A SPECIAL FUND IN THE STATE TREASURY FOR  
34 THE DEPOSIT OF THE ADDITIONAL FEE ON RECORDING OF OIL AND GAS



35 LEASES; TO AMEND SECTION 25-7-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
36 PROVIDE THAT THE CHANCERY CLERK WILL CHARGE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF  
37 ONE DOLLAR FOR EACH OIL AND GAS LEASE RECORDED, AND REMIT THE  
38 ADDITIONAL FEE FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE SPECIAL FUND; AND FOR RELATED  
39 PURPOSES.

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

41 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is established an engineering studies  
42 scholarship program to enable eligible applicants to obtain an  
43 undergraduate college education at a state institution of higher  
44 learning in Mississippi that is necessary to become a licensed  
45 professional engineer.

46 (2) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher  
47 Learning shall administer the scholarship program. The board of  
48 trustees shall provide to eligible applicants a financial  
49 scholarship that is used to pay the costs of the person's  
50 education at a state institution of higher learning in Mississippi  
51 to obtain a bachelor's degree that is necessary to become licensed  
52 as a professional engineer. The annual amount of a scholarship  
53 award under the program shall be equal to the total cost of  
54 tuition and fees at the college or university in which the student  
55 is enrolled. The board of trustees shall make the funds that are  
56 provided for the program equally available to each state  
57 institution of higher learning in Mississippi that offers an  
58 undergraduate degree in an engineering curriculum.

59 (3) Scholarships under the program shall not be based upon  
60 an applicant's eligibility for financial aid. A student must  
61 maintain a "C" average or higher in his or her college coursework  
62 in order to continue receiving the scholarship.



63 (4) After a person who received a scholarship under the  
64 program has obtained a bachelor's degree that is necessary to  
65 become licensed as a professional engineer and has received such a  
66 license from the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and  
67 Surveyors, the person shall render service as an engineer for a  
68 state agency for a period of not less than four (4) years.

69 (5) Any person who receives a scholarship under the program  
70 who fails to complete a program of study that is necessary to  
71 become licensed as a professional engineer, or who fails to  
72 receive such a license from the Board of Licensure for  
73 Professional Engineers and Surveyors, shall become liable  
74 immediately to the board of trustees for the sum of all  
75 scholarship awards made to that person, plus interest accruing at  
76 the current Stafford Loan rate at the time the person discontinues  
77 his or her participation in the program. Any person who fails to  
78 complete his or her service obligation as an engineer for not less  
79 than four (4) years, as required under subsection (4) of this  
80 section, shall become liable immediately to the board of trustees  
81 for the sum of all scholarship awards made to that person, plus  
82 interest accruing at the current Stafford Loan rate at the time  
83 the person discontinues his or her service. If a claim for  
84 payment under this subsection is placed in the hands of an  
85 attorney for collection, the obligor shall be liable for an  
86 additional amount equal to a reasonable attorney's fee.



87 (6) The board of trustees shall promulgate rules and  
88 regulations necessary for the proper administration of the  
89 scholarship program established under this section.

90 (7) If insufficient funds are available to fully fund  
91 scholarship awards to all eligible students, the board of trustees  
92 shall make the awards to first-time students on a first-come,  
93 first-served basis; however, priority consideration shall be given  
94 to persons previously receiving awards under the program.

95 (8) The program shall be funded by an additional fee on the  
96 recording of oil and gas leases, and any additional funds that are  
97 made available by the Legislature for the program. The additional  
98 fee on the recording of oil and gas leases shall be deposited into  
99 a special fund that is created in the State Treasury for that  
100 purpose. Monies in the special fund shall be expended by the  
101 board of trustees, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for the  
102 support of the program. All income from the investment of funds  
103 in the special fund shall be credited to the special fund, and any  
104 funds remaining in the special fund at the end of a fiscal year  
105 shall not lapse into the State General Fund.

106 **SECTION 2.** Section 25-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
107 amended as follows:

108 25-7-9. (1) The clerks of the chancery courts shall charge  
109 the following fees:

110 (a) For the act of certifying copies of filed  
111 documents, for each complete document.....\$ 1.00



112 (b) (i) Recording each deed, will, lease, amendment,  
 113 subordination, lien, release, cancellation, order, decree, oath,  
 114 etc., per book and page listed where applicable; for the first  
 115 fifteen (15) pages.....\$ 10.00  
 116 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
 117 (ii) Sectional index entries per section or  
 118 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00  
 119 (c) Recording each deed of trust, for the first fifteen  
 120 (15) pages.....\$ 15.00  
 121 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
 122 Sectional index entries per section or subdivision  
 123 lot ..... \$ 1.00  
 124 (d) (i) Recording oil and gas leases, cancellations,  
 125 etc., including indexing in general indices; for the first  
 126 fifteen (15) pages.....\$ 18.00  
 127 Each additional page.....\$ 1.00  
 128 (ii) Sectional index entries per section or  
 129 subdivision lot.....\$ 1.00  
 130 (iii) Recording each oil and gas assignment  
 131 per assignee.....\$ 18.00  
 132 (e) (i) Furnishing copies of any papers of record or  
 133 on file:  
 134 If performed by the clerk or his employee,  
 135 per page.....\$ .50  
 136 If performed by any other person,



137 per page.....\$ .25

138 (ii) Entering marginal notations on

139 documents of record.....\$ 1.00

140 (f) For each day's attendance on the board of

141 supervisors, for himself and one (1) deputy, each.....\$ 20.00

142 (g) For other services as clerk of the board of

143 supervisors an allowance shall be made to him (payable

144 semiannually at the July and January meetings) out of the county

145 treasury, an annual sum not exceeding.....\$3,000.00

146 (h) For each day's attendance on the chancery court, to

147 be approved by the chancellor:

148 For the first chancellor sitting only, clerk and

149 two (2) deputies, each.....\$ 50.00

150 For the second chancellor sitting,

151 clerk only.....\$ 50.00

152 Provided that the fees herein prescribed shall be the total

153 remuneration for the clerk and his deputies for attending chancery

154 court.

155 (i) On order of the court, clerks and not more than two

156 (2) deputies may be allowed five (5) extra days for each term of

157 court for attendance upon the court to get up records.

158 (j) For public service not otherwise specifically

159 provided for, the chancery court may by order allow the clerk to

160 be paid by the county on the order of the board of supervisors, an

161 annual sum not exceeding.....\$5,000.00



162 (k) For each civil filing, to be deposited into the  
163 Civil Legal Assistance Fund.....\$ 5.00

164 The chancery clerk shall itemize on the original document a  
165 detailed fee bill of all charges due or paid for filing, recording  
166 and abstracting same. No person shall be required to pay such  
167 fees until same have been so itemized, but those fees may be  
168 demanded before the document is recorded.

169 (2) The following fees shall be a total fee for all services  
170 performed by the clerk with respect to a complaint which shall be  
171 payable upon filing and shall accrue to the chancery clerk at the  
172 time of filing. The clerk or his successor in office shall  
173 perform all duties set forth without additional compensation or  
174 fee to wit:

- 175 (a) Divorce to be contested.....\$75.00
- 176 (b) Divorce uncontested.....\$30.00
- 177 (c) Alteration of birth or marriage certificate..\$25.00
- 178 (d) Removal of minority.....\$25.00
- 179 (e) Guardianship or conservatorship.....\$75.00
- 180 (f) Estate of deceased, intestate.....\$75.00
- 181 (g) Estate of deceased, testate.....\$75.00
- 182 (h) Adoption.....\$75.00
- 183 (i) Land dispute.....\$75.00
- 184 (j) Injunction.....\$75.00
- 185 (k) Settlement of small claim.....\$30.00
- 186 (l) Contempt in child support.....\$75.00



- 187 (m) Partition suit.....\$75.00  
188 (n) Any cross-complaint.....\$25.00  
189 (o) Commitment.....\$75.00

190 (3) For every civil case filed:

191 (a) An additional fee to be deposited to the credit of  
192 the Comprehensive Electronic Court Systems Fund established  
193 in Section 9-21-14.....\$10.00

194 (b) An additional fee to be deposited to the  
195 credit of the Judicial System Operation Fund established in  
196 Section 9-21-45.....\$40.00

197 (4) Cost of process shall be borne by the issuing party.  
198 Additionally, should the attorney or person filing the pleadings  
199 desire the clerk to pay the cost to the sheriff for serving  
200 process on one (1) person or more, or to pay the cost of  
201 publication, the clerk shall demand the actual charges therefor,  
202 at the time of filing.

203 (5) In addition to the fee charged under subsection (1) (d)  
204 of this section for recording an oil and gas lease, the clerk  
205 shall charge an additional fee of One Dollar (\$1.00) for each oil  
206 and gas lease recorded, and shall remit the additional fee to the  
207 Department of Finance and Administration for deposit into the  
208 special fund created in Section 1 of this act to support the  
209 engineering studies scholarship program.

210 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
211 and after July 1, 2018.

