

By: Representative Henley

To: Universities and
Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1024

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-106-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS TO ATTEND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF
3 HIGHER LEARNING AND COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES FOR THE CHILDREN
4 OF MISSISSIPPI SERVICE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES
5 WHO WERE KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR DIED AS THE IMMEDIATE
6 RESULT OF A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY WHILE SERVING IN EITHER
7 OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM OR OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, AS
8 DETERMINED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS;
9 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-106-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
12 amended as follows:

13 37-106-41. (1) If any member of the armed services, whose
14 official house of record and residence is within the State of
15 Mississippi, is officially reported as being either a prisoner of
16 war or missing in action in Southeast Asia, or has been a prisoner
17 of a foreign government as the result of a military action against
18 the United States naval vessel, Pueblo, or was killed in the line
19 of duty or died as the immediate result of a service-connected
20 disability while serving in either Operation Iraqi Freedom or
21 Operation Enduring Freedom, as determined by the United States



22 Department of Veteran Affairs, his or her child or children shall
23 be entitled to an eight-semester scholarship without cost,
24 exclusive of books, food, school supplies, materials and dues or
25 fees for extracurricular activities at any state-supported college
26 or university of his choice within this state. However, no child
27 will be entitled to receive benefits during any semester or
28 quarter when * * * that child has reached the age of twenty-three
29 (23) years on the first day of the semester or quarter.

30 (2) The provisions of this section shall apply to the child
31 or children of any member of the armed services who is officially
32 reported as being either a prisoner of war or missing in action in
33 Southeast Asia, or who was killed in the line of duty or died as
34 the immediate result of a service-connected disability while
35 serving in either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring
36 Freedom, as determined by the United States Department of Veteran
37 Affairs, whose spouse was a resident of this state for a period of
38 not less than ten (10) years during his or her minority and is a
39 resident or physically resides within this state and does
40 continually reside within this state at the time of enrollment and
41 during the enrollment * * *.

42 (3) It is further provided that the provisions of this
43 section shall apply to the child or children of any person who was
44 a resident of this state at the time he was inducted into the
45 Armed Forces of the United States of America and who is either a
46 former prisoner of war or officially reported as being a prisoner



47 of war or missing in action in Southeast Asia, or any resident of
48 this state who is the child of a Mississippi service member of the
49 United States Armed Forces who was killed in the line of duty or
50 died as the immediate result of a service-connected disability
51 while serving in either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation
52 Enduring Freedom, as determined by the United States Department of
53 Veteran Affairs, and who, or his or her spouse if he or she was a
54 resident of this state for a period of not less than ten (10)
55 years during her minority, is a resident of this state and at the
56 time of enrollment and during the enrollment of his or her child
57 or children at any state-supported college or university in this
58 state resided or resides in this state.

59 (4) Any applicant qualified and desiring a scholarship under
60 this section shall apply in writing to the board. The board shall
61 make inquiries into each such application and shall make the
62 investigation as it deems proper to establish and validate all
63 claims made under this section before a scholarship is granted.

64 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
65 and after July 1, 2019.

