

By: Representative Criswell

To: Universities and  
Colleges; Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 580

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 37-101-28, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
 2 1972, TO REQUIRE EACH STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING TO  
 3 DISPLAY THE FLAG OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE FLAG OF THE  
 4 UNITED STATES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE MAIN UNIVERSITY  
 5 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DURING THE HOURS OF DAYLIGHT WHEN THE  
 6 INSTITUTION IS IN SESSION; TO REQUIRE STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
 7 LEARNING TO LOWER THE UNITED STATES FLAG WHENEVER THE FLAG IS TO  
 8 BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF BY ORDER OR INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT  
 9 OF THE UNITED STATES OR PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW; AND FOR RELATED  
 10 PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
 13 37-101-28, Mississippi Code of 1972:

14 37-101-28. (1) At each state institution of higher  
 15 learning, the flag of the State of Mississippi and the flag of the  
 16 United States shall be displayed in close proximity to the main  
 17 university administration building at all times during the hours  
 18 of daylight when the institution is in session and the weather  
 19 will permit without damage to the flag. It shall be the duty of  
 20 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning to  
 21 provide for the flags and their display at the institutions.



22           (2) Whenever the flag of the United States is to be flown at  
23 half-staff by order or instructions of the President of the United  
24 States or pursuant to federal law, all state institutions of  
25 higher learning shall lower the United States flag in accordance  
26 with the executive order or instructions or federal law. The  
27 institution shall announce the reason that the flag is being flown  
28 at half-staff by prominently displaying written notice throughout  
29 the institution and providing electronic notice to the students  
30 and faculty stating the reason that the flag has been lowered.

31           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
32 and after July 1, 2020.

