

By: Representatives Currie, Creekmore IV

To: Universities and Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 741

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 37-106-60, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO CREATE THE SHERRY ELMORE NURSING EDUCATION FORGIVABLE
3 LOAN PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROGRAM IS FOR STUDY IN NURSING
4 TO BECOME A LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE OR A REGISTERED NURSE, AND
5 THE LOANS MAY BE REPAID BY PRACTICING NURSING IN THE STATE OF
6 MISSISSIPPI FOR NOT LESS THAN FIVE YEARS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE
7 COURSE OF STUDY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
10 37-106-60, Mississippi Code of 1972:

11 37-106-60. (1) This section shall be known as the Sherry
12 Elmore Nursing Education Forgivable Loan Program.

13 (2) There is created a forgivable loan program for study in
14 nursing to become a licensed practical nurse or a registered
15 nurse. Forgivable loans are established and shall be allocated to
16 students who: (a) are accepted and enrolled in an accredited
17 nursing program approved by the board; (b) complete an application
18 by the deadline established by the board; and (c) enter into
19 contract with the board, obligating themselves to pursue to
20 completion the course of study agreed upon, and following the



21 completion of the course of study, to practice nursing in the
22 State of Mississippi for not less than five (5) years.

23 (3) Repayment and conversion terms shall be the same as
24 outlined in Section 37-106-53, except that the following
25 provisions shall apply instead of subsection (1)(b) of that
26 section: In lieu of payment in full of both principal and
27 interest, a loan recipient under this section may elect to repay
28 by entry into service employment as provided in subsection (1)(c)
29 of this section. Repayment under this option shall convert the
30 loan to an interest-free scholarship and discharge the same, on
31 the basis of one fifth (1/5) of the total loan amount for each
32 full year of service, or the appropriate proportion of the total
33 outstanding balance of principal and interest, all as established
34 by rule and regulation of the board. If at any time before the
35 repayment in full of the total obligation the recipient abandons
36 or abrogates repayment by this service option, the provisions of
37 Section 37-106-53(1)(c) shall apply.

38 (4) The board shall establish the rules and regulations as
39 it deems necessary and proper to carry out the purposes and intent
40 of this section.

41 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after July 1, 2022.

