

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1163**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

16           **SECTION 1.** Section 21-25-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
17 amended as follows:

18           21-25-23. The governing authorities of any municipality are  
19 hereby authorized, when petitioned so to do by the Board of  
20 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning or the board of  
21 trustees of a community or junior college district, to create, by  
22 ordinance, a fire district encompassing the area adjoining such  
23 municipality on which a part or all of a State Institution of  
24 Higher Learning or a community college is located, after the  
25 creation of which such governing authorities and the Board of



26 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning or the board of  
27 trustees of the affected community or junior college district  
28 shall have full power to contract for laying of water mains and  
29 any other pipes or connections to the water mains to be used in  
30 said fire district, and for the establishment and maintenance of  
31 fire service therein. However, no such governing authority shall  
32 have the power either to promulgate or enforce any charge, rule or  
33 regulation upon said district without first having received the  
34 ratification and consent of the Board of Trustees of State  
35 Institutions of Higher Learning or the board of trustees of the  
36 affected community or junior college district as reflected by the  
37 minutes of said trustees.

38 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-29-231, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
39 amended as follows:

40 37-29-231. (1) The provisions of Sections 37-103-1 through  
41 37-103-29 relating to the legal residence of and tuition to be  
42 charged any student applying for admission to state educational  
43 institutions shall be applicable to the boards of trustees of each  
44 junior college district in the state and to the administrative  
45 authorities of each such junior college governed by said board.

46 (2) The board of trustees of each community or junior  
47 college is authorized, in its discretion and as deemed necessary,  
48 to enter into contract with a municipality as authorized under  
49 Section 21-25-23, or into an interlocal agreement with the county  
50 governing authority of the county wherein the community or junior



51 college is located if situated outside of the incorporated limits  
52 of any city or municipality therein, to provide fire protection  
53 and first responder services to the main campus of the community  
54 or junior college for which the contract or interlocal agreement  
55 was entered. In addition to fire protection services, first  
56 responder services shall also include law enforcement services and  
57 emergency medical transportation services.

58       **SECTION 3.** Section 37-29-141, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
59 amended as follows:

60       37-29-141. (1) The board of trustees of any junior college  
61 district is expressly authorized and empowered to make a thorough  
62 study and evaluation of the costs of operation of the junior  
63 college district, and said board shall recommend a fair and  
64 acceptable tax rate for district general support and maintenance  
65 from each of the member counties.

66       The board of trustees of any junior college district as  
67 constituted as of July 1, 1964, shall have the authority to  
68 recommend the tax levy necessary for a newly contributing county  
69 to have representation on the board of trustees of said junior  
70 college.

71       From and after October 1, 1989, no county shall levy less  
72 than (a) one (1) mill for the support, and (b) one (1) mill for  
73 the enlargement, improvement and repair of the junior college  
74 within the district of which the county is a member. From and  
75 after October 1, 1990, the board of trustees of any junior college



76 district may, by a sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote of the  
77 members of such board, recommend an additional one (1) mill which  
78 may be used for the support or for the enlargement, improvement  
79 and repair of the junior college within the district of which the  
80 county is a member. If a county is levying more than the minimum  
81 levy required herein for one category but less than the minimum  
82 levy required for the other, then the excess millage under the one  
83 may be applied towards making up the deficiency which exists in  
84 the other. If a county contributes to two (2) junior college  
85 districts, the combined levy for both districts shall not be less  
86 than the minimums required herein.

87 Any county having any school district located therein with a  
88 current operating deficit of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars  
89 (\$200,000.00) or more on July 1, 1989, shall not be required to  
90 levy the minimum millage required under this subsection (1) until  
91 such time as the said operating deficit is eliminated, or for a  
92 period of three (3) fiscal years, whichever is less. Provided,  
93 however, that no such county shall levy a smaller tax millage for  
94 capital improvements and general support of a junior college  
95 district than was levied for the previous year.

96 No county shall levy a smaller tax millage for capital  
97 improvements and general support of a junior college district than  
98 was levied for the previous year, unless requested to make such  
99 reduction by the board of trustees of the district. When a county  
100 has a general reassessment of property to increase the county ad



101 valorem tax assessments, such county may reduce the millage for  
102 general support and capital improvements, provided that its  
103 aggregate budget for junior college purposes is not lower than was  
104 paid the previous year.

105 In lieu of taxation, the board of trustees may fix the amount  
106 of enrollee tuition in an amount commensurate with the per capita  
107 cost of operating the district, which may also include any fees  
108 assessed by the board upon each student enrolled under the  
109 authority of Section 37-29-231 for the purpose of offsetting the  
110 cost of first responder services provided to the main campus of  
111 the community college by the local governing authority in  
112 accordance with the provisions of the contract entered into under  
113 the authority of Section 21-25-23 or the interlocal agreement  
114 entered into under the authority of Section 37-29-231.

115 (2) Taxes for the support, enlargement, improvement and  
116 repairs of junior colleges shall be levied annually against all of  
117 the property of each county and of each municipal separate school  
118 district, including added territory, which has established or may  
119 hereafter establish, or which has joined or may hereafter join, in  
120 the establishment or support of a junior college. In no case  
121 shall such levy exceed three (3) mills for support and three (3)  
122 mills for enlargement, improvement and repairs for each junior  
123 college within the district of which the county or municipal  
124 separate school district may be a component.



125 (3) The levy for support for any year in any given county or  
126 separate school district is that presently prevailing therein  
127 unless a change is recommended to the tax levying authorities by  
128 the board of trustees or by a vote of the people ascertained in an  
129 election called for that purpose by the tax levying authorities  
130 subsequent to the petition therefor signed by twenty percent (20%)  
131 of the qualified electors.

132 (4) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the  
133 contrary, the minimum millage required under subsection (1) shall  
134 not be levied by the board of supervisors of any county within a  
135 junior college district until the board of trustees of the  
136 district adopts annually, an order, by a sixty percent (60%)  
137 affirmative vote of the members of the board, that such minimum  
138 millage shall be levied by each county within the district.

139 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
140 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 21-25-23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR  
3 COLLEGE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH A MUNICIPALITY FOR THE  
4 PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 37-29-231,  
5 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF  
6 COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE, IN ITS DISCRETION, TO ENTER INTO AN  
7 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY WHERE THE  
8 COMMUNITY OR JUNIOR COLLEGE IS LOCATED, TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION  
9 AND FIRST RESPONDER SERVICES TO THE MAIN CAMPUS OF THE COMMUNITY  
10 OR JUNIOR COLLEGE; TO PROVIDE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
11 COMMUNITY OR JUNIOR COLLEGE THE DISCRETION TO OFFSET THE COST OF  
12 THE SERVICES BY ASSESSING A STUDENT FEE EACH SEMESTER; TO AMEND



13 SECTION 37-29-141, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY  
14 THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

