

**Adopted
AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Senate Bill No. 2715

BY: Senator(s) DeBar

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

17 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Joint Legislative Committee on
18 Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) shall conduct
19 a viability study of the Mississippi University for Women. The
20 purpose of the study shall be to address challenges and find
21 solutions which help strengthen the campus and ensure its future
22 success. The study shall:

23 (a) Evaluate the budget and current fiscal status of
24 the university;

25 (b) Evaluate the physical plant of the university and
26 the plan to ensure it is maintained;



27 (c) Evaluate current collaborations or opportunities
28 for collaboration with other institutions related to course
29 offerings or efficiency opportunities;

30 (d) Collect and analyze data and statistics related to
31 enrollment and graduation rates and projections, with particular
32 focus on the enrollment and graduation rates of Mississippi
33 residents, as well as other data relating to shifting
34 demographics;

35 (e) Examine any existing or developing plans to address
36 projected nationwide demographic shifts and enrollment declines;
37 and

38 (f) Review any other matters related to the viability,
39 efficiency and effectiveness of Mississippi University for
40 Women.

41 (2) Subject to appropriations, PEER may hire an expert in
42 higher education to assist in the study. PEER may also request
43 the assistance of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher
44 Learning, the Legislative Budget Office, and any other related
45 agency, entity or organization with expertise in higher
46 education or a related area.

47 (3) By October 1, 2024, PEER shall submit the final
48 feasibility study to the Chairmen of the Universities and
49 Colleges Committees in the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi
50 House of Representatives, the Chairmen of the Appropriations
51 Committees in the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi House of



52 Representatives, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the
53 House of Representatives.

54 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-117-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
55 brought forward as follows:

56 37-117-1. The institution incorporated by the act of the
57 legislature, approved March 12, 1884, and established in pursuance
58 thereof, shall continue to exist as a body politic and corporate
59 by the name of the "Mississippi College for Women," with all its
60 property and franchises, rights, powers and privileges conferred
61 on it by law, or properly incident to such a body and necessary to
62 accomplish the purpose of its creation; said college may receive
63 and hold all real estate and personal property conveyed or given
64 to it for such purposes. However, the name "Mississippi State
65 College for Women" is hereafter changed to "Mississippi University
66 for Women," without interference with the rights, powers and
67 prerogatives of said college which continue in all respects.
68 Whenever the name "Mississippi College for Women" appears the same
69 is construed to denote "Mississippi University for Women."

70 **SECTION 3.** Section 37-139-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
71 brought forward as follows:

72 37-139-3. (1) There is hereby created the Mississippi
73 School for Mathematics and Science which shall be a residential
74 school for eleventh and twelfth grade high school students located
75 on the campus of the Mississippi University for Women.



76 (2) The school shall be governed by the State Board of
77 Education.

78 (3) The board shall develop a plan relating to the opening,
79 the operation and the funding of the school. Such plan shall be
80 presented to the Legislature during the 1988 Regular Session and
81 shall include an equitable and reasonable plan for student
82 recruitment without regard to race, creed or color.

83 (4) The purpose of the school shall be to educate the gifted
84 and talented students of the state, and its curriculum and
85 admissions policies shall reflect such purpose.

86 (5) The board shall prepare the annual budget for the
87 school.

88 **SECTION 4.** Section 37-101-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
89 brought forward as follows:

90 37-101-1. The following state institutions of higher
91 learning shall be under the management and control of a board of
92 trustees to be known as the Board of Trustees of State
93 Institutions of Higher Learning, namely:

94 (a) The University of Mississippi;

95 (b) Mississippi State University of Agriculture and
96 Applied Science;

97 (c) Mississippi University for Women;

98 (d) The University of Southern Mississippi;

99 (e) Delta State University;

100 (f) Alcorn State University;



101 (g) Jackson State University;
102 (h) Mississippi Valley State University;
103 (i) And any other of like kind which may be hereafter
104 established by the state.

105 **SECTION 5.** Section 25-65-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
106 brought forward as follows:

107 25-65-7. The provisions of this chapter shall only apply (a)
108 to the following universities: (i) Alcorn State University, (ii)
109 Delta State University, (iii) Jackson State University, (iv)
110 Mississippi State University, (v) Mississippi State University
111 Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station, (vi) Mississippi
112 State University Cooperative Extension Service, (vii) Mississippi
113 State University Forest and Wildlife Research Center, (viii)
114 Mississippi State University State Chemical Laboratory, (ix)
115 Mississippi University for Women, (x) Mississippi Valley State
116 University, (xi) The University of Mississippi, (xii) University
117 of Mississippi Medical Center and * * * (xiii) The University of
118 Southern Mississippi; (b) to the following community/junior
119 colleges: (i) Coahoma Community College, (ii) Copiah-Lincoln
120 Community College, (iii) East Central Community College, (iv) East
121 Mississippi Community College, (v) Hinds Community College, (vi)
122 Holmes Community College, (vii) Itawamba Community College, (viii)
123 Jones County Junior College, (ix) Meridian Community College, (x)
124 Mississippi Delta Community College, (xi) Mississippi Gulf Coast
125 Community College, (xii) Northeast Mississippi Community College,



126 (xiii) Northwest Mississippi Community College, (xiv) Pearl River
127 Community College and (xv) Southwest Mississippi Community
128 College; and (c) to the following agencies: (i) the Department of
129 Finance and Administration, (ii) the State Tax Commission, (iii)
130 the Department of Education, (iv) the State Department of Health,
131 (v) the Department of Mental Health, (vi) the Department of
132 Agriculture and Commerce, (vii) the Mississippi Development
133 Authority, (viii) the Department of Environmental Quality, (ix)
134 the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, (x) the
135 Department of Corrections, (xi) the Division of Medicaid, (xii)
136 the Department of Rehabilitation Services, (xiii) the Department
137 of Public Safety, (xiv) the Mississippi Employment Security
138 Commission, (xv) the Mississippi Department of Information
139 Technology Services, (xvi) the Public Employees Retirement System,
140 (xvii) the Mississippi Department of Transportation, (xviii) the
141 Mississippi Gaming Commission and (xix) the Mississippi Department
142 of Human Services.

143 **SECTION 6.** Section 37-117-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
144 brought forward as follows:

145 37-117-5. The right belongs to each county to have a number
146 of girls admitted, proportionate to its number of educable girls
147 as compared with the whole number in the state. The total
148 attendance at any session shall not exceed the entire allotment to
149 the several counties for such session.



150 **SECTION 7.** Section 37-117-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
151 brought forward as follows:

152 37-117-7. The apportionment of students to be admitted to
153 the Mississippi State College for Women shall be made and
154 announced by the president of the college annually, and
155 communicated to the county superintendents of education by the
156 first of August, or as soon thereafter as practicable. No
157 applicant under sixteen years of age shall be admitted to the
158 institution.

159 **SECTION 8.** Section 37-117-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
160 brought forward as follows:

161 37-117-9. The superintendent of education of each county,
162 after due notice published, shall examine applicants, not
163 qualified to enter by certificate from an accredited school, upon
164 questions prepared and submitted by the president of the
165 Mississippi State College for Women, and, with the consent of the
166 board of supervisors, shall give certificates of selection to the
167 number of girls to which his county is entitled, in addition to
168 those already in the said college, if any. County superintendents
169 shall make their appointments of students to the said college not
170 later than July 1 of each year.

171 The certificate of selection shall be attested by the clerk
172 of the board of supervisors, under its seal, and shall entitle the
173 holder to admission into the said college, with all the privileges



174 thereof, to pursue all the industrial branches selected, and to
175 enter the subclass or class for which she is fitted.

176 **SECTION 9.** Section 37-117-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
177 brought forward as follows:

178 37-117-11. The privilege of rooming in the dormitories at
179 the Mississippi State College for Women belongs to the free
180 students, and to the due quota of girls from each county, in
181 preference to all others. The basis of apportionment is hereby
182 fixed at the present dormitory capacity. However, this provision
183 shall not be construed to exclude pupils from free tuition who pay
184 their board elsewhere.

185 **SECTION 10.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
186 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 REQUIRE THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
2 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND EXPENDITURE REVIEW TO CONDUCT A
3 VIABILITY STUDY OF THE MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN; TO
4 PROVIDE THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY SHALL BE TO ADDRESS
5 CHALLENGES AND FIND SOLUTIONS WHICH HELP STRENGTHEN THE CAMPUS AND
6 ENSURE ITS FUTURE SUCCESS; TO REQUIRE PEER TO SUBMIT THE FINAL
7 FEASIBILITY STUDY TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES
8 COMMITTEES IN THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE AND MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES, THE CHAIRMEN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES IN
10 THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE AND MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
11 THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES, BY OCTOBER 1, 2024; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS
13 37-117-1, 37-139-3, 37-101-1, 25-65-7, 37-117-5, 37-117-7,
14 37-117-9 AND 37-117-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FOR THE PURPOSE
15 OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

