

By: Representative Scott

To: Public Health and Human
Services; Universities and
Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 277

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE RECIPIENTS OF BENEFITS UNDER THE
2 SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) OR THE TEMPORARY
3 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) PROGRAM TO TAKE THE TEST OF
4 ADULT BASIC EDUCATION (TABE); TO PROVIDE THAT IF THE RECIPIENT
5 SCORES BELOW THE 12TH GRADE LEVEL IN ANY CATEGORY OF THE TABE, THE
6 RECIPIENT MUST ENROLL IN A PROGRAM OF STUDY FOR THE TABE AT A
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO BECOME COMPETENT IN THOSE CATEGORIES IN WHICH
8 THE RECIPIENT IS DEFICIENT, AND TAKE THE TABE AGAIN AFTER
9 COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM OF STUDY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Each person who is eighteen (18) years of age or
12 older, who is a recipient of benefits under the Supplemental
13 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Temporary Assistance
14 for Needy Families (TANF) program and who is not employed shall be
15 required to take the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE). If the
16 recipient scores below the 12th grade level in any category of the
17 TABE, the recipient must enroll in a program of study for the TABE
18 at a community college in the state to become competent in those
19 categories in which the recipient is deficient, and take the TABE
20 again after completion of the program of study. If the recipient
21 does not achieve a score at or above the 12th grade level in each



22 category on the TABE when taking it for the second time, the
23 recipient must again enroll in a program of study for the TABE at
24 a community college in the state and retake the TABE until the
25 recipient achieves a score at or above the 12th grade level in
26 each category on the TABE.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
28 and after July 1, 2025.

