

By: Representatives Carpenter, Aguirre, Bell
(21st), Hawkins, Hobgood-Wilkes, Hulum,
Mattox, Scoggin, Tubb, McLean, Anthony

To: Workforce Development;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1225

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-153-235 AND 37-153-237,
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
3 PARAMEDICS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-153-235, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-153-235. (1) There is established the Paramedics
9 Recruitment and Retention Scholarship Program ("the program").
10 The scholarship program shall be used by the Office of Workforce
11 Development, with the Mississippi Department of Employment
12 Security acting as the fiscal agent, for the purpose of providing
13 funding for grants to cover the full cost of tuition, fees, books
14 and any required uniforms for qualified applicants to attend an
15 accredited paramedic program and to reimburse the cost of a
16 qualified applicant's fee for the successful completion of the
17 National Registry Paramedic cognitive and psychomotor
18 examinations. The scholarship program shall be funded from monies
19 appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose.



20 (2) For the purposes of this article, a "paramedic" means a
21 certified healthcare professional who specializes in providing
22 emergency medical treatment to people who are injured or ill,
23 typically in a setting outside of a hospital.

24 (3) The Office of Workforce Development shall prescribe the
25 terms and conditions of grants awarded under the program. To
26 qualify for a grant under this program, an applicant must:

- 27 (a) Be a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT);
- 28 (b) Have the necessary requisites for an accredited
29 paramedic program;
- 30 (c) Commit to locate in the State of Mississippi for a
31 minimum of three (3) years; and
- 32 (d) Meet any other conditions for receipt as prescribed
33 by the Office of Workforce Development.

34 (4) The Office of Workforce Development may use a maximum of
35 five percent (5%) of funds appropriated for the program for the
36 administration of the program.

37 (5) The Office of Workforce Development may promulgate rules
38 and regulations as necessary to effectuate the provisions of this
39 section.

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-153-237, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
41 amended as follows:

42 37-153-237. The office shall enter into a grant contract
43 agreement with each recipient of a grant under the program that



44 incorporates * * * obligations and conditions * * * as determined
45 appropriate by the office.

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47 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 2025.

