

By: Representative Bourdeaux

To: Universities and
Colleges; Ways and
Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1252

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
2 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING SHALL ADMINISTER A PROGRAM IN
3 WHICH A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OR CORPORATION MAY CONTRACT WITH AN
4 INDIVIDUAL FOR TUITION PAYMENT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE BUSINESS
5 ENTERPRISE OR CORPORATION SHALL BE GRANTED A FIFTY PERCENT INCOME
6 TAX CREDIT FOR THE AMOUNT OF TUITION PAID; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. (1) The Board of Trustees of State Institutions
10 of Higher Learning shall administer a program in which a business
11 enterprise or corporation doing business in this state may
12 contract with an individual to allow that individual to attend any
13 of the junior colleges, community colleges or institutions of
14 higher learning in the state. The contract shall provide that the
15 business enterprise or corporation shall pay the tuition for the
16 individual. The contract may provide that the individual work on
17 a part-time basis for the business enterprise or corporation
18 during the individual's schooling; however, there shall be no
19 requirement that the business enterprise or corporation must hire
20 the individual or that the individual must work for the business
21 enterprise or corporation after the completion of the schooling.
22 No officer or board member of the business enterprise or
23 corporation shall be related to the individual with whom the
24 contract is executed.

25 (2) Any business enterprise or corporation that pays the
26 tuition as provided in Section 1 of this act shall be granted a
27 fifty percent (50%) income tax credit for the amount of tuition
28 paid. A deduction shall not be allowed for any expenses which

29 serve as the basis for an income tax credit. The credits allowed
30 under this act shall not be used by any business enterprise or
31 corporation other than the business enterprise or corporation
32 actually qualifying for the credits. Credit may be carried
33 forward for the five (5) successive years if the amount allowable
34 as credit exceeds income tax liability in a tax year; however,
35 thereafter, if the amount allowable as a credit exceeds the tax
36 liability, the amount of excess shall not be refundable or carried
37 forward to any other taxable year. Business enterprises or
38 corporations must be certified as eligible for the tax credit by
39 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

40 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
41 and after July 1, 1999.