

By: Representatives Brown, Simpson,
Whittington

To: Universities and
Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 1612
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION 37-4-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR
3 COLLEGES TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE STATE FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR
4 COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
7 37-4-15, Mississippi Code of 1972:

8 37-4-15. (1) On or after July 1, 2002, the State Board for
9 Community and Junior Colleges shall contract with a competent
10 management consulting or accounting firm to study the state
11 funding formula for community and junior colleges. The study
12 shall accomplish the following specific outcomes:

13 (a) Evaluate the validity of the current student
14 classifications used in the funding formula and make
15 recommendations for change in the classification system if
16 advisable;

17 (b) Evaluate the weights assigned to each student
18 classification and make recommendations for change in the current
19 weights if advisable;

20 (c) Identify the best management practices associated
21 with the production of graduates in each of the student
22 classifications and use such information as a basis for validating
23 any changes in weights referred to in paragraph (b) of this
24 subsection. The study of best practices shall also identify the
25 amount of state funding that is used in program areas at schools
26 exhibiting the best management practices.

27 (2) The report also shall recommend to the State Board for
28 Community and Junior Colleges all reporting requirements and



29 systems needed to collect information necessary to maintain a
30 valid system of weights, student classification and the best
31 practices associated with producing graduates most efficiently.
32 All community and junior colleges shall cooperate with the State
33 Board for Community and Junior Colleges in conducting this study
34 and in providing all further information on an annual basis
35 necessary to update the weights for programs established as a
36 result of this study, the best management practices and the
37 student classifications established as a result of this study.

38 (3) The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall
39 report its findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate
40 Education Committees and the House and Senate Appropriations
41 Committees no later than December 15, 2002.

42 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
43 and after July 1, 2002.

