

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Public Health and  
Welfare; Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2694

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-4-23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH TO EMPLOY  
3 SECURITY GUARDS AND PROMOTE THEM TO "CAMPUS POLICE" AFTER  
4 COMPLETING APPROPRIATE TRAINING AT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING  
5 ACADEMY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-4-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 41-4-23. (a) It will be the duty of the director of any  
10 mental health or mental retardation facility under the direction  
11 or control of the State Department of Mental Health to designate  
12 certain employees as security guards and campus police. The  
13 names, qualifications, and training of such campus police will be  
14 reported to the Executive Director of the State Department of  
15 Mental Health and spread upon the official minutes of the State  
16 Board of Mental Health.

17 All campus police, subsequent to employment but prior to  
18 performing duties as campus police, will attend and satisfactorily  
19 complete the training course required for law enforcement officers  
20 at the Law Enforcement Officer's Training Academy or an equivalent  
21 facility. Campus police training may be at the expense of the  
22 Department of Mental Health and conditioned upon work repayment by  
23 the employee in accordance with educational leave regulations  
24 promulgated by the State Board of Mental Health. Failure to meet  
25 repayment obligations may result in revocation of law enforcement  
26 certification in the same manner provided in Section 37-101-291,  
27 Mississippi Code of 1972. A complete record of all law  
28 enforcement training of each employee will be maintained in each



29 employee's record of employment. A master file of all such  
30 employees' training will be kept in the central office of the  
31 State Department of Mental Health.

32 (b) All campus police will be duly constituted peace  
33 officers with powers and duties of a constable but such authority  
34 may be exercised only on the premises of institutions under the  
35 control of the State Department of Mental Health and public  
36 property immediately adjacent to such premises. Each person  
37 designated as a security guard or campus police will enter into  
38 bond \* \* \* in the penalty amount of not less than Ten Thousand  
39 Dollars (\$10,000.00), the premium for which shall be paid by the  
40 facility employing such security guard or campus police.

41 (c) All security guards and campus police will exercise  
42 their authority while in performance of their duty on any of the  
43 facilities under the direction or control of the State Department  
44 of Mental Health and public property immediately adjacent to such  
45 facilities; will be required to dress in uniforms prescribed by  
46 the State Board of Mental Health; and will be authorized to carry  
47 weapons. Employees designated as campus police shall be duly  
48 sworn and vested with authority to bear arms and make arrests, and  
49 shall exercise primarily the responsibilities of the prevention  
50 and detection of crime, the apprehension of criminals, and the  
51 enforcement of the ordinances and policies of the Department of  
52 Mental Health, a political subdivision of the State of  
53 Mississippi. Employees designated as campus police shall be  
54 considered law enforcement officers within the meaning of Section  
55 45-6-3.

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

