

By: Senator(s) King, Dawkins, Hewes,
Nunnelee, Dickerson

To: Universities and
Colleges; Constitution

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 521

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION
2 213-A OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890 TO PROVIDE THAT FROM
3 AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2003, ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
4 STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM EACH
5 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, AT LEAST ONE GRADUATE FROM EACH UNIVERSITY
6 FROM THE STATE AT LARGE, AND NO MORE THAN TWO MEMBERS MAY BE
7 GRADUATES OF THE SAME UNIVERSITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
9 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi
10 Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the
11 state:

12 Amend Section 213-A, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to
13 read as follows:

14 Section 213-A. The state institutions of higher learning now
15 existing in Mississippi, to wit: University of Mississippi,
16 Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Science,
17 Mississippi University for Women, University of Southern
18 Mississippi, Delta State University, Alcorn State University,
19 Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, and
20 any others of like kind which may be hereafter organized or
21 established by the State of Mississippi, shall be under the
22 management and control of a board of trustees to be known as the
23 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the
24 members thereof to be appointed by the Governor of the state with
25 the advice and consent of the Senate. The Governor shall appoint
26 only men and women as such members as shall be qualified electors
27 residing in the district from which each is appointed, and at
28 least twenty-five (25) years of age, and of the highest order of
29 intelligence, character, learning and fitness for the performance



30 of such duties, to the end that such board shall perform the high
31 and honorable duties thereof to the greatest advantage of the
32 people of the state of such educational institutions, uninfluenced
33 by any political considerations. The members of the board of
34 trustees as constituted on January 1, 2003, whose terms have not
35 expired shall serve the balance of their terms, after which time
36 the membership of the board shall be appointed as follows: The
37 Governor shall appoint one (1) member from each congressional
38 district. The Governor shall appoint from the state at large not
39 less than one (1) member who is a graduate of the University of
40 Mississippi, not less than one (1) member who is a graduate of
41 Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Science,
42 not less than one (1) member who is a graduate of Mississippi
43 University for Women, not less than one (1) member who is a
44 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, not less than
45 one (1) member who is a graduate of Delta State University, not
46 less than one (1) member who is a graduate of Alcorn State
47 University, not less than one (1) member who is a graduate of
48 Jackson State University, and not less than one (1) member who is
49 a graduate of Mississippi Valley State University. No more than
50 two (2) members shall be a graduate of the same university. The
51 term of office of the members shall be twelve (12) years. In case
52 of a vacancy on said board by death or resignation of a member, or
53 from any other cause than the expiration of such member's term of
54 office, the board shall elect his successor, who shall hold office
55 until the end of the next session of the Legislature. During such
56 term of the session of the Legislature the Governor shall appoint
57 the successor member of the board from the district from which his
58 predecessor was appointed, to hold office until the end of the
59 period for which such original trustee was appointed, to the end
60 that one-third (1/3) of such trustees' terms will expire each four
61 (4) years.



62 The Legislature shall provide by law for the appointment of a
63 trustee for the La Bauve Fund at the University of Mississippi and
64 for the perpetuation of such fund.

65 Such board shall have the power and authority to elect the
66 heads of the various institutions of higher learning, and contract
67 with all deans, professors and other members of the teaching
68 staff, and all administrative employees of said institutions for a
69 term not exceeding four (4) years; but said board shall have the
70 power and authority to terminate any such contract at any time for
71 malfeasance, inefficiency or contumacious conduct, but never for
72 political reasons.

73 Nothing herein contained shall in any way limit or take away
74 the power the Legislature had and possessed, if any, at the time
75 of the adoption of this amendment, to consolidate, abolish or
76 change the status of any of the above named institutions.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this amendment to the
78 Constitution shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this
79 state at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the
80 first Monday of November 2002, in the manner provided by Section
81 273 of the Constitution and by law.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed
83 amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed
84 amendment provides that after January 1, 2003, new members of the
85 twelve-member Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
86 Learning shall be composed of one (1) member from each
87 congressional district. The remaining members are appointed from
88 the state at large and each state university must have at least
89 one (1) graduate as a member of the board. No university can have
90 more than two (2) graduates as members of the board."

