

By: Representative Young

To: Universities and
Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 1119
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-103-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CLARIFY THE RESIDENCE STATUS OF SPOUSE AND CHILDREN OF MILITARY
3 PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSES OF ATTENDING
4 STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND
5 COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-103-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 37-103-19. (1) Resident status of a spouse or child of a
11 member of the Armed Forces of the United States on extended active
12 duty shall be that of the military spouse or parent for the
13 purpose of attending state-supported institutions of higher
14 learning and community/junior colleges of the State of Mississippi
15 during the time that the military spouse or parent is stationed
16 within the State of Mississippi and shall be continued through the
17 time that the military spouse or parent is stationed in an
18 overseas area with last duty assignment within the State of
19 Mississippi, excepting temporary training assignments en route
20 from Mississippi. Resident status of a minor child terminates
21 upon reassignment under Permanent Change of Station Orders of the
22 military parent for duty in the continental United States outside
23 the State of Mississippi, excepting temporary training assignments
24 en route from Mississippi, and except that children of members of
25 the Armed Forces who attain Mississippi residency in accordance
26 with the above provisions, who begin and complete their senior
27 year of high school in Mississippi, and who enroll full time in a
28 Mississippi institution of higher learning or community/junior
29 college to begin studies in the fall after their graduation from

30 high school, maintain their residency status so long as they
31 remain enrolled as a student in good standing at a Mississippi
32 institution of higher learning or community/junior college.
33 Enrollment during summer school is not required to maintain such
34 resident status.

35 (2) The spouse or child of a member of the Armed Forces of
36 the United States who dies or is killed is entitled to pay the
37 resident tuition fee if the spouse or child becomes a resident of
38 Mississippi within one hundred eighty (180) days of the date of
39 death.

40 (3) If a member of the Armed Forces of the United States is
41 stationed outside Mississippi and the member's spouse or child
42 establishes residence in Mississippi and registers with the
43 Mississippi institution of higher learning or community/junior
44 college at which the spouse or child plans to attend, the
45 institution of higher education or community/junior college shall
46 permit the spouse or child to pay the tuition, fees and other
47 charges provided for Mississippi residents without regard to
48 length of time that the spouse or child has resided in
49 Mississippi.

50 (4) A member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the
51 child or spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United
52 States who is entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate
53 provided for Mississippi residents under another provision of this
54 section while enrolled in a degree or certificate program is
55 entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate provided for
56 Mississippi residents in any subsequent term or semester while the
57 person is continuously enrolled in the same degree or certificate
58 program. A student may withdraw or may choose not to reenroll for
59 no more than one (1) semester or term while pursuing a degree or
60 certificate without losing resident status only if that student
61 provides sufficient documentation by a physician that the student
62 has a medical condition that requires withdrawal or nonenrollment.

63 For purposes of this subsection, a person is not required to
64 enroll in a summer term to remain continuously enrolled in a
65 degree or certificate program. The person's eligibility to pay
66 tuition and fees at the rate provided for Mississippi residents
67 under this subsection does not terminate because the person is no
68 longer a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the
69 child or spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United
70 States.

71 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
72 and after its passage.