

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 823: MAEP; establish commission to study effectiveness and efficiency of.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

17 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a commission to study the
18 effectiveness and efficiency of the administration of college
19 tuition assistance programs administered by the institutions of
20 higher learning. In addition, the commission shall evaluate
21 merit-based college tuition assistance programs and procedures and
22 guidelines for implementing merit-based programs.

23 The commission shall make a report of its findings and
24 recommendations to the House and Senate Education Committees by
25 October 1, 2005, including any recommended legislation.

26 (2) The commission shall be composed of the following three
27 (3) members:

28 (a) A representative of the State Department of
29 Education, to be appointed by the State Superintendent of Public
30 Education;

31 (b) A representative from the institutions of higher
32 learning, to be appointed by the commissioner;

33 (c) A representative from the State Board for Community
34 and Junior Colleges, to be appointed by the chairman of the board.

35 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
36 the effective date of this act. The commission shall hold its
37 first meeting before July 15, 2005.

38 (4) Members of the commission may not be compensated for the
39 performance of their duties. Any incidental costs associated with
40 conducting the study shall be paid by the State Department of
41 Education.

42 (5) To effectuate the purposes of this section, any
43 department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the
44 state or of any political subdivision thereof shall, at the
45 request of the chairperson of the task force, provide to the
46 commission such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the
47 commission to properly carry out its duties.

48 **SECTION 2.** (1) The State Board of Education shall establish
49 academic standards that students must meet in order to participate
50 in extracurricular activities in the public schools of this state.
51 Those standards may be revised and amended by the board from time
52 to time as deemed necessary. All public school districts in the
53 state shall comply with the academic standards adopted by the
54 board.

55 (2) To assist the board in establishing those academic
56 standards, the board shall appoint a committee composed of the
57 following members:

58 (a) The Executive Director of the Mississippi High
59 School Activities Association;

60 (b) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
61 Association of School Superintendents;

62 (c) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
63 Association of Secondary School Principals;

64 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
65 Association of Coaches; and

66 (e) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
67 Association of School Administrators.

68 The committee shall meet upon call of the board, and it shall
69 submit to the board its recommendations for the academic standards

70 that students must meet in order to participate in extracurricular
71 activities in the public schools. The board shall consider the
72 recommendations of the committee before establishing, revising or
73 amending those academic standards.

74 **SECTION 3.** Students are allowed to participate in non-school
75 clubs, groups, activities, sports, competitions, camps and clinics
76 at any time during the school year and summer, unless prohibited
77 by local school district policies.

78 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after its passage.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS AND
2 EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE
3 PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND
4 EVALUATE MERIT-BASED COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; TO
5 DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH ACADEMIC
6 STANDARDS THAT STUDENTS MUST MEET IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN
7 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THIS STATE; TO
8 PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD SHALL APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO ASSIST IT IN
9 ESTABLISHING THOSE ACADEMIC STANDARDS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD
10 SHALL CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE BEFORE
11 ESTABLISHING, REVISING OR AMENDING THOSE ACADEMIC STANDARDS; TO
12 PROVIDE THAT STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN CERTAIN
13 ACTIVITIES AT ANY TIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR AND SUMMER, UNLESS
14 PROHIBITED BY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES; AND FOR RELATED
15 PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Brown

X (SIGNED)
Chaney

X (SIGNED)
Jennings

X (SIGNED)
Tollison

X (SIGNED)
Broomfield

X (SIGNED)
Clarke