

By: Representative Fleming

To: Universities and
Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-103-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT A RESIDENT STUDENT WHO ATTENDS A STATE-SUPPORTED
3 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING SHALL NOT BE CHARGED TUITION FOR
4 ACADEMIC YEARS SUBSEQUENT TO INITIAL ENROLLMENT THAT EXCEEDS THE
5 AMOUNT OF TUITION FOR THE INITIAL YEAR OF ENROLLMENT; AND FOR
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-103-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 37-103-25. (1) (a) Subject to the provisions of paragraph
11 (b) of this subsection, the Board of Trustees of State
12 Institutions of Higher Learning and the boards of trustees of the
13 community colleges and junior colleges are authorized to prescribe
14 the amount of tuition and fees to be paid by students attending
15 the several state-supported institutions of higher learning and
16 community colleges and junior colleges of the State of
17 Mississippi.

18 (b) A Mississippi resident, who initially enrolls as an
19 undergraduate student at a state-supported institution of higher
20 learning for the academic year 2006-2007, or for any academic year
21 thereafter, shall not be charged tuition for a subsequent academic
22 year in an amount that exceeds the amount of tuition charged the
23 student for his or her first academic year of enrollment:

24 (i) For the next three (3) consecutive academic
25 years at the same institution; or

26 (ii) If the undergraduate program in which the
27 student is enrolled requires more than four (4) years to complete,
28 for the normal time determined by the institution as necessary to
29 complete the program at that institution.

30 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the
31 total tuition to be paid by residents of other states shall not be
32 less than the average cost per student from appropriated funds.
33 However, the tuition to be paid by a resident of another state
34 shall be equal to the tuition amount established under subsection
35 (1) of this section if:

36 (a) The nonresident student was born in the State of
37 Mississippi but subsequently relocated and resided outside the
38 state as a minor under the care of the minor's father or mother,
39 or both;

40 (b) The nonresident student is a veteran who served in
41 the Armed Forces of the United States;

42 (c) The nonresident student is domiciled in Mississippi
43 no later than six (6) months after the nonresident student's
44 separation from service, as evidenced by a Report of Separation
45 from Military Service or other military discharge document, for
46 the purpose of enrolling in a state institution of higher learning
47 or a community or junior college; or

48 (d) The nonresident student is an evacuee of an area
49 affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. This waiver
50 shall be applicable to the 2005-2006 school year only.

51 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
52 and after July 1, 2006.