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AMENDMENT NO 3 PROPOSED TO**

Senate Bill No. 2727

BY: Representative Holloway (76th)

1 **Amend** after line 263 by inserting the following:

2 "**SECTION 3.** (1) There is hereby established the Land Grant
3 Institutions Funding History Task Force to Examine 50 years, from
4 1962 to 2012, of State Funding to the Agricultural Land Grant
5 Extension and Research institutions of higher learning in
6 Mississippi created in Sections 37-121-1 and 37-113-1. The
7 members of the task force shall be as follows:

8 (a) The Chairmen of the Universities and Colleges
9 Committees of the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi House of
10 Representatives, or their designees from their respective
11 committee membership;

12 (b) The Chairmen of the Appropriations Committees of
13 the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi House of Representatives,
14 or their designees from their respective committee membership;



15 (c) A member of the Board of Trustees of State
16 Institutions of Higher Learning or the Commissioner of
17 Higher Education;

18 (d) The President of Alcorn State University or the
19 president's designee; and

20 (e) The President of Mississippi State University or
21 the president's designee;

22 (f) A resident of the state appointed by the Governor
23 who holds an undergraduate degree from Alcorn State University.
24 Such designee shall have significant business or other
25 professional experience;

26 (g) A resident of the state appointed by the Lieutenant
27 Governor who holds an undergraduate degree from Mississippi State
28 University. Such designee shall have significant business or other
29 professional experience;

30 (h) A resident of the state appointed by the Speaker of
31 the House of Representatives. Such designee shall have significant
32 business or other professional experience;

33 (i) The Executive Director of the Joint Legislative
34 Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER)
35 or the executive director's designee.

36 (2) All appointments to the task force must be made no later
37 than June 30, 2024. After the members are appointed, the members
38 of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning
39 or Commissioner of Higher Education shall set the date for an



40 organizational meeting within forty-five (45) days of this bill
41 becoming law and which is mutually acceptable to a majority of the
42 task force members. Meetings of the task force shall be held at
43 the State Capitol or any state institution of higher learning;
44 however, if it is not feasible for the task force to hold an in-
45 person meeting, the task force may convene utilizing an online
46 meeting platform that is accessible for viewing by the public. At
47 the organizational meeting, the task force shall elect a chair
48 from the members designated under paragraphs (a) through (i) of
49 subsection (1). A majority of the members of the task force
50 constitute a quorum at all task force meetings and shall be
51 required to approve any final report and recommendation.

52 (3) The task force shall evaluate the current and historical
53 data, resources, and laws and policies of the State of
54 Mississippi. Specifically, the task force shall:

55 (a) Examine, research, and analyze fifty (50) years of
56 data, from the period of 1962 to 2012, of historical land grant
57 federal and match funding, extension service and research for the
58 land grant state institutions of higher learning in Mississippi to
59 compare and determine the extent to which the institutions were
60 funded under federal land grant laws and policies;

61 (b) The economic impact on students, faculty, the
62 regional community served by Alcorn State University and
63 Mississippi State University, and the State of Mississippi, which
64 resulted from differences in funding;



65 (c) Recommendations for the state to address any
66 funding distinctions in prior years by allocating additional state
67 funding to the respective institution for such number of years
68 determined to be appropriate by the task force; and

69 (d) Review any other relevant matters related to the
70 above issues or of the land grant state institutions of higher
71 learning in Mississippi.

72 (4) Based upon the results of its research, analysis, and
73 study, the task force shall develop and make recommendations for a
74 plan of action to address any funding differences discovered in
75 prior years and to secure ongoing greater state funding for the
76 land grant state institutions of higher learning in Mississippi,
77 in future years.

78 (5) Members of the task force shall serve without
79 compensation and subject to appropriations, members of the task
80 force who are not state employees may be compensated at the per
81 diem rate authorized by Section 25-3-69 and reimbursed in
82 accordance with Section 25-3-41 for mileage and actual expenses
83 incurred in the performance of their duties. However, task force
84 members may not incur per diem, travel or other expenses unless
85 previously authorized by vote at a meeting of the task force,
86 which action must be recorded in the official minutes of the
87 meeting. Per diem and expense payments made pursuant to this
88 subsection may be paid from any funds made available to the task
89 force for that purpose.



90 (6) The Mississippi Department of Archives and History and
91 the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and any other
92 related agency, entity or organization with expertise in higher
93 education, federal designated land grant institutions,
94 historically black colleges and universities, legislative funding
95 history and other issues shall assist the task force.

96 (7) The Department of Finance and Administration and the
97 Legislative Budget Office shall provide administrative, technology
98 and clerical support to meetings of the task force and draft the
99 final report.

100 (8) Before December 31, 2024, the task force shall prepare
101 and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
102 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House of
103 Representatives, with copies to all task force members."

104 **Further, amend the title to conform** on line 23, by inserting
105 the following after the semicolon:

106 "TO CREATE THE LAND GRANT INSTITUTIONS FUNDING HISTORY TASK FORCE
107 TO EXAMINE 50 YEARS OF FUNDING TO THE STATE AGRICULTURAL LAND
108 GRANT EXTENSION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN
109 THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; TO PRESCRIBE THE MEMBERSHIP AND SPECIFIC
110 DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE; TO REQUIRE THE TASK FORCE TO SUBMIT A
111 REPORT OF ITS WORK AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2024,
112 TO THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
113 REPRESENTATIVES, ON FUNDING, POLICY AND LAWS IN MISSISSIPPI WITH A
114 GOAL OF GREATER INVESTMENT IN THE STATE LAND GRANT SYSTEM FOR THE
115 FUTURE;".

