

By: Representative Scott

To: Universities and
Colleges; Revenue and
Expenditure General Bills

HOUSE BILL NO. 128

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE EVERY UNIVERSITY ELIGIBLE FOR A POSTSEASON
2 BOWL GAME, INCLUDING PLAYOFF GAMES, TO PLACE INTO AN ESCROW
3 ACCOUNT 33% OF ALL REVENUE RECEIVED BY THE UNIVERSITY FOR BEING
4 ACCEPTED INTO, PARTICIPATING IN, AND WINNING A BOWL GAME; TO
5 REQUIRE THE UNIVERSITY TO DISTRIBUTE TO A GRADUATING ATHLETE HIS
6 PRO RATA SHARE OF THE MONIES ACCUMULATED IN THE ESCROW ACCOUNT
7 DURING THE ATHLETE'S ACTIVE ELIGIBILITY PERIOD; AND FOR RELATED
8 PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature finds that university athletes
11 invest much time, effort and focus to their athletic pursuits
12 which may result in the university's invite and acceptance to a
13 postseason bowl game, including playoff games, earning significant
14 monies for the athlete's institution. The Legislature further
15 finds that athletic coaches are compensated generously from the
16 bowl game revenues, whereas the athletes receive much less
17 significant monetary gain from their hard work and dedication to
18 the sport. Therefore, the Legislature deems it appropriate and
19 proper to compensate those athletes monetarily upon graduation
20 from the university.



21 **SECTION 2.** (1) Every university eligible for a postseason
22 bowl game, including playoff games, shall place into an escrow
23 account thirty-three percent (33%) of all revenue received by the
24 university for being accepted into, participating in, and winning
25 a bowl game.

26 (2) Upon graduation from the university, the monies
27 accumulated in the escrow account during the graduating athlete's
28 active eligibility period at that university shall be distributed
29 to the athlete according to his pro rata share.

30 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
31 and after July 1, 2017.

