

By: Representative Manning

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 247

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED
2 TO ENROLL PERSONS WHO WILL NOT GRADUATE BEFORE AGE 21; TO
3 AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MAKE EXCEPTIONS TO THE AGE
4 REQUIREMENT; TO EXEMPT PERSONS HAVING SPECIAL NEEDS FROM THE
5 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. (1) No school district shall be required to
8 enroll any person in Grades K-12 unless, in the determination of
9 the local school board, the person has a reasonable chance of
10 graduating from high school before attaining the age of twenty-one
11 (21) years. However, the local school board, in its discretion,
12 may authorize the enrollment of a person who is not able to
13 graduate before attaining the age of twenty-one (21) years if, in
14 the school board's determination, the enrollment of such person
15 would be in his and the school district's best interest.

16 (2) This section shall not apply to persons who are: working
17 towards meeting the requirements for a special diploma or special
18 certificate of completion; enrolled in a special educational
19 assistance program; or enrolled in any program for exceptional
20 children.

21 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a
22 separate section in Chapter 15, Title 37, Mississippi Code of
23 1972.

24 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
25 and after July 1, 1999.