

By: Representative Johnson

To: Education;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 887

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EMPLOY
2 STAFF ARCHITECTS TO DEVELOP PROTOTYPE PLANS FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS
3 AND FACILITIES; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OWN ALL PLANS
4 PREPARED BY THE STAFF ARCHITECTS; TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL SCHOOL
5 DISTRICTS TO USE PROTOTYPE PLANS FREE OF CHARGE; TO REQUIRE STAFF
6 ARCHITECTS TO CONDUCT INSPECTIONS OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS USING
7 PROTOTYPE PLANS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. (1) The State Superintendent of Public
10 Education, subject to the approval of the State Board of
11 Education, shall employ one or more architects to develop a
12 sufficient number of school prototype designs for new school
13 buildings and related facilities, including, but not limited to,
14 gymnasiums, auditoriums, lunchrooms, vocational training
15 buildings, libraries, school barns and garages for transportation
16 vehicles. The staff architect or architects shall be full-time
17 employees of the State Department of Education, and the department
18 shall have ownership of all school prototype designs, plans and
19 related documents. Each architect employed in the department must
20 be registered under Chapter 1, Title 73, Mississippi Code of 1972.

21 (2) The staff architect or architects shall develop at least
22 five (5) prototype designs each for elementary schools, middle
23 schools and high schools. In addition, the architect or
24 architects shall develop a sufficient number of plans, as
25 determined by the department, for related facilities. The various
26 school building plans shall be designed for school districts of
27 differing sizes.

28 (3) The school boards of local school districts may use the

29 prototype plans free of charge from the department for all new
30 facilities. However, the availability of prototype plans shall
31 not preclude a school board from employing an architect to develop
32 plans specific for that school district. Site adaptations and
33 minor plan modifications to a prototype plan may be made by a
34 staff architect working in conjunction with the local school
35 board.

36 (4) A local school board utilizing a prototype plan shall
37 contract for the construction project in the manner required by
38 law for school district capital improvements projects. If a
39 school district constructs a new school building or a related
40 facility utilizing a prototype plan, a staff architect of the
41 department shall perform the necessary site inspections throughout
42 the construction phase of the project.

43 (5) The State Board of Education may promulgate any rules
44 and regulations necessary for the proper administration of this
45 section.

46 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
47 and after July 1, 1999.