

By: Representatives Wallace, Coleman (29th), To: Education
Thornton

HOUSE BILL NO. 1180

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-131, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE FOR THE TEACHING OF ABSTINENCE AS A METHOD OF BIRTH
3 CONTROL IN THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 37-13-131, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-13-131. (1) The State Department of Education is
9 designated as the state agency responsible for the administration
10 and supervision of the Comprehensive School Health Education
11 Program as an educational curriculum in the State of Mississippi.

12 It is the intent of the Legislature that all funds made available
13 to the State Department of Education for the purpose of
14 comprehensive school health education shall be administered by the
15 State Department of Education.

16 (2) Pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of this
17 section, the State Department of Education is authorized to
18 establish an Office of Comprehensive School Health Education
19 within the framework of the State Department of Education for the
20 purpose of developing standards, procedures and criteria for the
21 administration and supervision of a statewide program of health
22 education in Kindergarten through Grade 12. The State Department
23 of Education, through the Office of Comprehensive School Health
24 Education, shall assume the further responsibility for promoting a
25 statewide effort designed to prepare local school faculties and
26 staffs to incorporate the comprehensive health education concept
27 into their local educational programs.

28 (3) The Mississippi Department of Health, in conjunction
29 with the Office of Student Development-Branch of Health-Related
30 Services of the State Department of Education, shall develop a
31 long-range strategic plan for a Comprehensive School Health
32 Education Program in Grades K through 12. The Comprehensive
33 School Health Education Program shall encompass four (4)
34 interdependent components: (a) health education; (b) health
35 service; (c) physical education and fitness; and (d) a healthful
36 school environment. These curriculum components shall be designed
37 to develop decision-making competencies related to health and
38 health behavior. Such curriculum components are intended to
39 motivate health maintenance and promote wellness, not only to
40 prevent disease or disability. The Mississippi Department of
41 Health, in conjunction with the Office of Student
42 Development-Branch of Health-Related Services of the Department of
43 Education, shall develop the strategic plan and make a report
44 thereon to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January
45 1, 1995.

46 (4) The Mississippi Department of Health, in conjunction
47 with the Office of Student Development-Branch of Health-Related
48 Services of the State Department of Education, shall develop a
49 curriculum which provides for the teaching of abstinence as a
50 method of birth control as part of the Comprehensive School Health
51 Education Program. The Mississippi Department of Health shall
52 develop educational materials to be used throughout the state to
53 carry out the provisions of this subsection.

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