

By: Representatives Scott (80th), Bailey,  
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To: Education

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1399

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-135, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT BY THE 2001-2002 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
3 SHALL IMPLEMENT THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM  
4 IN GRADES K THROUGH 12; TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-131, MISSISSIPPI  
5 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION  
6 PROGRAM TO INCLUDE THE TEACHING OF AND STRESSING THE ADVANTAGES OF  
7 TOTAL ABSTINENCE FROM PREMARITAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY; AND FOR RELATED  
8 PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. Section 37-13-135, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
11 amended as follows:

12 37-13-135. (1) In addition to all other authority, duties  
13 and powers the school boards of the school districts of this state  
14 may \* \* \* have, each shall adopt plans for the implementation of  
15 the Comprehensive School Health Education Program into the local  
16 school curriculum. By the 2001-2002 school year, each school  
17 district shall implement the Comprehensive School Health Education  
18 Program in Grades K through 12, in accordance with the following  
19 schedule: Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, each school  
20 district shall implement the program in Grades 6 through 8, in  
21 addition to implementing it in one (1) of the Grades 9 through 12.  
22 Beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, each school district  
23 shall implement the program in Grades 3 through 5, and beginning  
24 with the 2001-2002 school year, each school district shall  
25 implement the program in Grades K through 12.

26 (2) School boards shall appoint a local health education  
27 council to make recommendations regarding a comprehensive health  
28 education curriculum.

29 (3) There shall be cooperation between the State Department

30 of Education, Office of Comprehensive School Health Education and  
31 the school boards of the several school districts in implementing  
32 this program as it best suits the needs of the individual  
33 districts.

34 (4) The Commission on School Accreditation shall encourage  
35 the development of plans of comprehensive school health education  
36 and the implementation thereof.

37 SECTION 2. Section 37-13-131, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
38 amended as follows:

39 37-13-131. (1) The State Department of Education is  
40 designated as the state agency responsible for the administration  
41 and supervision of the Comprehensive School Health Education  
42 Program as an educational curriculum in the State of Mississippi.

43 It is the intent of the Legislature that all funds made available  
44 to the State Department of Education for the purpose of  
45 comprehensive school health education shall be administered by the  
46 State Department of Education.

47 (2) Pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of this  
48 section, the State Department of Education is authorized to  
49 establish an Office of Comprehensive School Health Education  
50 within the framework of the State Department of Education for the  
51 purpose of developing standards, procedures and criteria for the  
52 administration and supervision of a statewide program of health  
53 education in Kindergarten through Grade 12. The State Department  
54 of Education, through the Office of Comprehensive School Health  
55 Education, shall assume the further responsibility for promoting a  
56 statewide effort designed to prepare local school faculties and  
57 staffs to incorporate the comprehensive health education concept  
58 into their local educational programs.

59 (3) The Mississippi Department of Health, in conjunction  
60 with the Office of Student Development-Branch of Health-Related  
61 Services of the State Department of Education, shall develop a  
62 long-range strategic plan for a Comprehensive School Health

63 Education Program in Grades K through 12. The Comprehensive  
64 School Health Education Program shall encompass four (4)  
65 interdependent components: (a) health education; (b) health  
66 service; (c) physical education and fitness; and (d) a healthful  
67 school environment. These curriculum components shall be designed  
68 to develop decision-making competencies related to health and  
69 health behavior. Such curriculum components are intended to  
70 motivate health maintenance and promote wellness, not only to  
71 prevent disease or disability. The Mississippi Department of  
72 Health, in conjunction with the Office of Student  
73 Development-Branch of Health-Related Services of the Department of  
74 Education, shall develop the strategic plan and make a report  
75 thereon to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January  
76 1, 1995.

77 (4) The Comprehensive School Health Education Program shall  
78 include the teaching of total abstinence from premarital sexual  
79 activity, identifying the advantages of abstinence and stressing  
80 that abstinence is the only method that is totally effective in  
81 preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

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