To: Juvenile Justice

By: Warren

HOUSE BILL NO. 377

AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION

37-11-30, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY THE REPORTING

REQUIDEMENTS OF LAW ENERGEBERS AND COURTS CONCERNING

- 3 REQUIREMENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND COURTS CONCERNING
- 4 ARRESTS OF PERSONS WHO ARE STUDENTS AND THE DISPOSITION OF
- 5 CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST THOSE STUDENTS; TO AMEND SECTIONS
- 6 37-11-29 THROUGH 37-11-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY
- 7 THERETO; TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-92, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
- 8 AUTHORIZE CERTAIN CHILDREN ARRESTED FOR FELONIOUS CONDUCT TO BE
- 9 REFERRED, IN THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCRETION, TO THE
- 10 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTIONS 43-21-255, 43-21-261
- 11 AND 43-21-621, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE
- 12 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 14 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section
- 15 37-11-30, Mississippi Code of 1972:
- 16 37-11-30. (1) Whenever any person who is an enrolled
- 17 student in any public or private school or educational institution
- 18 in this state is arrested for and lawfully charged with the
- 19 commission of any crime, the officer or law enforcement department
- 20 of which the arresting officer is a member shall make a report of
- 21 the arrest to the superintendent, president or chancellor, as the
- 22 case may be, of the school district or other educational
- 23 institution in which the student is enrolled. The report must be
- 24 made within forty-eight (48) hours after the arrest of the
- 25 student. If the charge upon which the student was arrested or any
- 26 other charges preferred against him are dismissed or nol prossed,

- 27 the law enforcement department shall make a report within one (1)
- 28 week of that action to the same school official to whom the report
- 29 of the arrest and charge was made. This section shall not apply
- 30 to ordinary traffic violations involving a penalty of less than
- 31 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and costs.
- 32 (2) Whenever any person who is an enrolled student in any
- 33 public or private school or educational institution in this state
- 34 is acquitted, convicted of, or enters a plea of guilty or nolo
- 35 contendere to any crime charged against him other than an ordinary
- 36 traffic violation involving a penalty of less than Fifty Dollars
- 37 (\$50.00) and costs, the court having jurisdiction of the offense
- 38 shall make a report of the acquittal, conviction or plea to the
- 39 superintendent, president or chancellor, as the case may be, of
- 40 the school district or other educational institution in which the
- 41 student is enrolled. The report must be made within forty-eight
- 42 (48) hours after the student is acquitted, convicted or enters a
- 43 plea of nolo contendere upon the charge placed against him.
- SECTION 2. Section 37-11-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 45 amended as follows:
- 46 37-11-29. (1) Any principal, teacher or other school
- 47 employee who has knowledge of any unlawful activity which occurred
- 48 on educational property or during a school related activity or
- 49 which may have occurred shall report such activity to the
- 50 superintendent of the school district or his designee who shall
- 51 notify the appropriate law enforcement officials as required by
- 52 this section. In the event of an emergency or if the
- 53 superintendent or his designee is unavailable, any principal may
- 54 make a report required under this subsection.
- 55 *** * ***
- 56 <u>(2)</u> When the superintendent or his designee has a reasonable
- 57 belief that an act has occurred on educational property or during

- 58 a school related activity involving any of the offenses set forth
- 59 in subsection (5) of this section, the superintendent or his
- 60 designee shall immediately report the act to the appropriate local
- 61 law enforcement agency. For purposes of this subsection, "school
- 62 property" shall include any public school building, bus, public
- 63 school campus, grounds, recreational area or athletic field in the
- 64 charge of the superintendent. The State Board of Education shall
- 65 prescribe a form for making reports required under this
- 66 subsection. Any superintendent or his designee who fails to make
- 67 a report required by this section shall be subject to the
- 68 penalties provided in Section 37-11-15.
- 69 (3) The law enforcement authority shall immediately dispatch
- 70 an officer to the educational institution, and with probable
- 71 cause, the officer is authorized to make an arrest if necessary as
- 72 provided in Section 99-3-7.
- 73 (4) Any superintendent, principal, teacher or other school
- 74 personnel participating in the making of a required report
- 75 pursuant to this section or participating in any judicial
- 76 proceeding resulting therefrom shall be presumed to be acting in
- 77 good faith. Any person reporting in good faith shall be immune
- 78 from any civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or
- 79 imposed.
- 80 (5) For purposes of this section, "unlawful activity" means
- 81 any of the following:
- 82 (a) Possession or use of a deadly weapon, as defined in
- 83 Section 97-37-1;
- (b) Possession, sale or use of any controlled
- 85 substance;

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86 (c) Aggravated assault, as defined in Section 97-3-7;
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- 87 (d) Simple assault, as defined in Section 97-3-7, upon
- 88 any school employee;
- 89 (e) Rape, as defined under Mississippi law;
- 90 (f) Sexual battery, as defined under Mississippi law;
- 91 (g) Murder, as defined under Mississippi law;
- 92 (h) Kidnapping, as defined under Mississippi law; or
- 93 (i) Fondling, touching, handling, etc., a child for
- 94 lustful purposes, as defined in Section 97-5-23.
- 95 SECTION 3. Section 37-11-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 96 amended as follows:
- 97 37-11-31. Such report as is required pursuant to the
- 98 provisions of Section 37-11-30(1), shall contain: the full name
- 99 of the student; the place, date and time of arrest; a brief
- 100 statement of the charge or charges upon which he was arrested, and
- 101 any other charges placed against him after his arrest but before
- 102 the making of the report; * * * the disposition, if any, which may
- 103 have been made of the charges by the arresting officer or the law
- 104 enforcement department of which he is a member; whether the
- 105 student was released on bail and, if so, the amount of the bail;
- 106 and the <u>student's</u> home address and the school or educational
- 107 institution in which he was enrolled. * * * The report * * * made
- 108 by the court after the trial of the student, as required under
- 109 <u>Section 37-11-30(2)</u>, shall contain: * * * a brief statement of
- 110 the charge or charges upon which the student was tried; whether
- 111 the student was acquitted or convicted; if convicted, the
- 112 punishment inflicted; a statement as to whether any appeal has
- 113 been taken from the decision * * *; and if such person is admitted

- 114 to bail either before or after trial, the amount of the bail shall
- 115 be stated, together with the name of each surety upon his bail
- 116 bond.
- SECTION 4. Section 37-11-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 118 amended as follows:
- 119 37-11-33. The * * * law enforcement department and the clerk
- 120 of the * * * court making such reports as are required pursuant to
- 121 the provisions of Section 37-11-30 shall receive the sum of One
- 122 Dollar (\$1.00) for each * * * report made. The sum shall be paid
- 123 from the general fund by the town, city or county where such * * *
- 124 reports are made, upon proper bill being submitted for the reports
- 125 supported by certificate or affidavit that the reports have been
- 126 made.
- 127 All such reports shall be preserved by each recipient thereof
- 128 and a copy retained in the * * * law enforcement department
- 129 or * * * office of the court clerk, as the case may be, who or
- 130 which made such * * * reports.
- SECTION 5. Section 37-11-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 132 amended as follows:
- 133 37-11-35. If any person charged by Section 37-11-29(2) or
- 134 <u>37-11-30</u> to make the reports * * * willfully <u>fails</u>, <u>refuses</u> or
- 135 <u>neglects</u> to file any such report, he shall be guilty of a
- 136 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more
- 137 than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or * * * imprisoned not
- 138 exceeding six (6) months, or both.
- SECTION 6. Section 37-13-92, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 140 amended as follows:
- 141 37-13-92. (1) * * * The school boards of all school

- districts shall establish, maintain and operate, in connection
 with the regular programs of the school district, an alternative
 school program for, but not limited to, the following categories
 of compulsory-school-age students:
- (a) Any compulsory-school-age child who has been suspended for more than ten (10) days or expelled from school, except for any student expelled for possession of a weapon or other felonious conduct;
- (b) Any compulsory-school-age child referred to such alternative school based upon a documented need for placement in the alternative school program by the parent, legal guardian or custodian of such child due to disciplinary problems; * * *
- 154 (c) Any compulsory-school-age child referred to such
 155 alternative school program by the dispositive order of a
 156 chancellor or youth court judge, with the consent of the
 157 superintendent of the child's school district; and
 - (d) In the discretion of the school superintendent, any compulsory-school-age child who has been arrested for and lawfully charged with the commission of any crime which would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, if the child's presence in the classroom, in the determination of the school superintendent, will be a disruption to the educational environment of the school.
 - (2) The principal or program administrator of any such alternative school program shall require verification from the appropriate guidance counselor of any such child referred to the alternative school program regarding the suitability of such child for attendance at the alternative school program. Before a student may be removed to an alternative school education program,

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- the superintendent of the student's school district must determine that the written and distributed disciplinary policy of the local district is being followed. The policy shall include standards
- (a) The removal of a student to an alternative 174 175 education program that will include a process of educational 176 review to develop the student's individual instruction plan and 177 the evaluation at regular intervals of the student's educational progress; the process shall include classroom teachers and/or 178 179 other appropriate professional personnel, as defined in the 180 district policy, to ensure a continuing educational program for 181 the removed student;
- (c) The notification of parents or guardians, and their appropriate inclusion in the removal and evaluation process, as defined in the district policy. Nothing in this paragraph should be defined in a manner to circumvent the principal's or the superintendent's authority to remove a student to alternative

(b) The duration of alternative placement; and

- 189 (3) The local school board or the superintendent shall
 190 provide for the continuing education of a student who has been
 191 removed to an alternative school program.
- 192 (4) A school district, in its discretion, may provide a

 193 program of general educational development (GED) preparatory

 194 instruction in the alternative school program. However, any GED

 195 preparation program offered in an alternative school program must

 196 be administered in compliance with the rules and regulations

 197 established for such programs under Sections 37-35-1 through

education.

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for:

- 198 37-35-11 and by the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.
- 199 The school district may administer the General Educational
- 200 Development (GED) Testing Program under the policies and
- 201 guidelines of the GED Testing Service of the American Council on
- 202 Education in the alternative school program or may authorize the
- 203 test to be administered through the community/junior college
- 204 district in which the alternative school is situated.
- 205 (5) Any such alternative school program operated under the 206 authority of this section shall meet all appropriate accreditation
- 207 requirements of the State Department of Education.
- 208 (6) The alternative school program may be held within such
- 209 school district or may be operated by two (2) or more adjacent
- 210 school districts, pursuant to a contract approved by the State
- 211 Board of Education. When two (2) or more school districts
- 212 contract to operate an alternative school program, the school
- 213 board of a district designated to be the lead district shall serve
- 214 as the governing board of the alternative school program.
- 215 Transportation for students attending the alternative school
- 216 program shall be the responsibility of the local school district.
- 217 The expense of establishing, maintaining and operating such
- 218 alternative school program may be paid from funds contributed or
- 219 otherwise made available to the school district for such purpose
- 220 or from local district maintenance funds.
- 221 (7) The State Board of Education shall promulgate minimum
- 222 guidelines for alternative school programs. The * * * guidelines
- 223 shall require, at a minimum, the formulation of an individual
- 224 instruction plan for each student referred to the alternative
- 225 school program and, upon a determination that it is in a student's

- 226 best interest for that student to receive general educational
- 227 development (GED) preparatory instruction, that the local school
- 228 board assign the student to a GED preparatory program established
- 229 under subsection (4) of this section. The minimum guidelines for
- 230 alternative school programs shall also require the following
- 231 components:
- 232 (a) Clear guidelines and procedures for placement of
- 233 students into alternative education programs which at a minimum
- 234 shall prescribe due process procedures for disciplinary and
- 235 general educational development (GED) placement;
- 236 (b) Clear and consistent goals for students and
- 237 parents;
- 238 (c) Curricula addressing cultural and learning style
- 239 differences;
- 240 (d) Direct supervision of all activities on a closed
- 241 campus;
- 242 (e) Full-day attendance with a rigorous workload and
- 243 minimal time off;
- 244 (f) Selection of program from options provided by the
- 245 local school district, Division of Youth Services or the youth
- 246 court, including transfer to a community-based alternative school;
- 247 (g) Continual monitoring and evaluation and formalized
- 248 passage from one step or program to another;
- (h) A motivated and culturally diverse staff;
- 250 (i) Counseling for parents and students;
- 251 (j) Administrative and community support for the
- 252 program; and
- 253 (k) Clear procedures for annual alternative school

- 254 program review and evaluation.
- 255 (8) On request of a school district, the State Department of
- 256 Education shall provide the district informational material on
- 257 developing an alternative school program that takes into
- 258 consideration size, wealth and existing facilities in determining
- 259 a program best suited to a district.
- 260 (9) Any compulsory-school-age child who becomes involved in
- 261 any criminal or violent behavior shall be removed from such
- 262 alternative school program and, if probable cause exists, a case
- 263 shall be referred to the youth court.
- 264 (10) The State Board of Education, in its discretion, may
- 265 exempt not more than four (4) school district alternative school
- 266 programs in the state from any compulsory standard of
- 267 accreditation for a period of three (3) years. During this
- 268 period, the State Department of Education shall conduct a study of
- 269 all alternative school programs in the state, and on or before
- 270 January 1, 2000, shall develop and promulgate accreditation
- 271 standards for all alternative school programs, including any
- 272 recommendations for necessary legislation relating to such
- 273 alternative school programs.
- SECTION 7. Section 43-21-255, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 275 amended as follows:
- 276 43-21-255. (1) Except as otherwise provided by this section
- 277 or Section 43-21-261, all records involving children made and
- 278 retained by law enforcement officers and agencies or by the youth
- 279 court prosecutor and the contents thereof shall be kept
- 280 confidential and shall not be disclosed * * *.
- 281 (2) A child in the jurisdiction of the youth court and who

282 has been taken into custody for an act which if committed by an 283 adult would be considered a felony or offenses involving 284 possession or use of a dangerous weapon or any firearm, may be 285 photographed or fingerprinted or both. Any law enforcement agency 286 taking such photographs or fingerprints shall immediately report 287 the existence and location of the photographs and fingerprints to 288 the youth court. Copies of fingerprints known to be those of a 289 child shall be maintained on a local basis only. Such copies of 290 fingerprints may be forwarded to another local, state or federal bureau of criminal identification or regional depository for 291 292 identification purposes only. Such copies of fingerprints shall 293 be returned promptly and shall not be maintained by such agencies. 294 (3) Any law enforcement record, including photographs and 295 fingerprints, involving children who have been taken into custody 296 for an act which if committed by an adult would be considered a 297 felony and/or offenses involving possession or use of a dangerous 298 weapon, * * * may be released to a law enforcement agency 299 supported by public funds, youth court officials and appropriate school officials without a court order under Section 43-21-261. 300 301 Law enforcement records shall be released to youth court officials and to appropriate school officials upon written request. Except 302 303 as provided in subsection (4) of this section, any law enforcement 304 agency releasing such records of children in the jurisdiction of 305 the youth court shall immediately report the release and location 306 of the records to the youth court. The law enforcement agencies, 307 youth court officials and school officials receiving such records 308 are prohibited from using the photographs and fingerprints for any 309 purpose other than for criminal law enforcement and juvenile law

- 310 enforcement. Each law enforcement officer or employee, each youth
- 311 court official or employee and each school official or employee
- 312 receiving the records shall submit to the sender a signed
- 313 statement acknowledging his or her duty to maintain the
- 314 confidentiality of the records. In no instance shall the fact
- 315 that such records of children in the jurisdiction of the youth
- 316 court exist be conveyed to any private individual, firm,
- 317 association or corporation or to any public or quasi-public agency
- 318 the duties of which do not include criminal law enforcement or
- 319 juvenile law enforcement. For purposes of this subsection, the
- 320 term "law enforcement record" does not include reports required to
- 321 <u>be made to school districts and educational institutions under</u>
- 322 <u>Section 37-11-30</u>.
- 323 (4) When a child's driver's license is suspended for refusal
- 324 to take a test provided under the Mississippi Implied Consent Law,
- 325 the law enforcement agency shall report such refusal, without a
- 326 court order under Section 43-21-261, to the Commissioner of Public
- 327 Safety in the same manner as such suspensions are reported in
- 328 cases involving adults.
- 329 (5) All records involving a child convicted as an adult or
- 330 who has been twice adjudicated delinquent for a sex offense as
- 331 defined by Section 45-33-1 shall be public and shall not be kept
- 332 confidential.
- SECTION 8. Section 43-21-261, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 334 amended as follows:
- 335 43-21-261. (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, records
- 336 involving children shall not be disclosed, other than to necessary
- 337 staff of the youth court, except pursuant to an order of the youth

338 court specifying the person or persons to whom the records may be

339 disclosed, the extent of the records which may be disclosed and

340 the purpose of the disclosure. Such court orders for disclosure

341 shall be limited to those instances in which the youth court

342 concludes, in its discretion, that disclosure is required for the

343 best interests of the child, the public safety or the functioning

344 of the youth court and then only to the following persons:

- 345 (a) The judge of another youth court or member of 346 another youth court staff;
- 347 (b) The court of the parties in a child custody or 348 adoption cause in another court;
- 349 (c) A judge of any other court or members of another 350 court staff;
- 351 (d) Representatives of a public or private agency
 352 providing supervision or having custody of the child under order
 353 of the youth court;
- (e) Any person engaged in a bona fide research purpose,
 provided that no information identifying the subject of the
 records shall be made available to the researcher unless it is
 absolutely essential to the research purpose and the judge gives
 prior written approval, and the child, through his or her
 representative, gives permission to release the information;
- (f) The Mississippi Employment Security Commission, or its duly authorized representatives, for the purpose of a child's enrollment into the Job Corps Training Program as authorized by Title IV of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.A. Section 923 et seq.). However, no records, reports, investigations or information derived therefrom pertaining to

- 366 child abuse or neglect shall be disclosed; and
- 367 (g) To any person pursuant to a finding by a judge of
- 368 the youth court of compelling circumstances affecting the health
- 369 or safety of a child and that such disclosure is in the best
- 370 interests of the child.
- 371 Law enforcement agencies may disclose information to the
- 372 public concerning the taking of a child into custody for the
- 373 commission of a delinquent act without the necessity of an order
- 374 from the youth court. The information released shall not identify
- 375 the child or his address unless the information involves a child
- 376 convicted as an adult.
- 377 (2) Any records involving children which are disclosed under
- 378 an order of the youth court and the contents thereof shall be kept
- 379 confidential by the person or agency to whom the record is
- 380 disclosed except as provided in the order. Any further disclosure
- 381 of any records involving children shall be made only under an
- 382 order of the youth court as provided in this section.
- 383 (3) Upon request, the parent, guardian or custodian of the
- 384 child who is the subject of a youth court cause or any attorney
- 385 for such parent, guardian or custodian, shall have the right to
- 386 inspect any record, report or investigation which is to be
- 387 considered by the youth court at a hearing, except that the
- 388 identity of the reporter shall not be released, nor the name of
- 389 any other person where the person or agency making the information
- 390 available finds that disclosure of the information would be likely
- 391 to endanger the life or safety of such person.
- 392 (4) Upon request, the child who is the subject of a youth
- 393 court cause shall have the right to have his counsel inspect and

- 394 copy any record, report or investigation which is filed with the 395 youth court.
- 396 (5) (a) The youth court prosecutor or prosecutors, the 397 county attorney, the district attorney, the youth court defender 398 or defenders, or any attorney representing a child shall have the 399 right to inspect any law enforcement record involving children.
- 400 (b) The Department of Human Services shall disclose to
 401 a county prosecuting attorney or district attorney any and all
 402 records resulting from an investigation into suspected child abuse
 403 or neglect when the case has been referred by the Department of
 404 Human Services to the county prosecuting attorney or district
 405 attorney for criminal prosecution.
- 406 (c) Agency records made confidential under the 407 provisions of this section may be disclosed to a court of 408 competent jurisdiction.
- 409 Information concerning an investigation into a report of (6) 410 child abuse or child neglect may be disclosed by the Department of 411 Human Services without order of the youth court to any attorney, 412 physician, dentist, intern, resident, nurse, psychologist, social 413 worker, child care giver, minister, law enforcement officer, 414 public or private school employee making that report pursuant to 415 Section 43-21-353(1) if the reporter has a continuing professional 416 relationship with the child and a need for such information in 417 order to protect or treat the child.
- (7) Information concerning an investigation into a report of child abuse or child neglect may be disclosed without further order of the youth court to any interagency child abuse task force established in any county or municipality by order of the youth

- 422 court of that county or municipality.
- 423 (8) Names and addresses of juveniles twice adjudicated as
- 424 delinquent for an act which would be a felony if committed by an
- 425 adult or for the unlawful possession of a firearm shall not be
- 426 held confidential and shall be made available to the public.
- 427 (9) Names and addresses of juveniles adjudicated as
- 428 delinquent for murder, manslaughter, burglary, arson, armed
- 429 robbery, aggravated assault, any sex offense as defined in Section
- 430 45-33-1, for any violation of Section 41-29-139(a)(1) or for any
- 431 violation of Section 63-11-30, shall not be held confidential and
- 432 shall be made available to the public.
- 433 (10) The judges of the circuit and county courts, and
- 434 presentence investigators for the circuit courts, as provided in
- 435 Section 47-7-9, shall have the right to inspect any youth court
- 436 records of a person convicted of a crime for sentencing purposes
- 437 only.
- 438 (11) The victim of an offense committed by a child who is
- 439 the subject of a youth court cause shall have the right to be
- 440 informed of the child's disposition by the youth court.
- 441 (12) The Classification Committee of the State Department of
- 442 Corrections, as provided in Section 47-5-103, shall have the right
- 443 to inspect any youth court records, excluding abuse and neglect
- 444 records, of any offender in the custody of the department who as a
- 445 child or minor was a juvenile offender or was the subject of a
- 446 youth court cause of action, and the State Parole Board, as
- 447 provided in Section 47-7-17, shall have the right to inspect such
- 448 records when the offender becomes eligible for parole.
- 449 (13) The youth court shall notify the Department of Public

- Safety of the name, and any other identifying information such
 department may require, of any child who is adjudicated delinquent
 as a result of a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances
 Law.
- 454 (14) The Administrative Office of Courts shall have the
 455 right to inspect any youth court records in order that the number
 456 of youthful offenders, abused, neglected, truant and dependent
 457 children, as well as children in need of special care and children
 458 in need of supervision, may be tracked with specificity through
 459 the youth court and adult justice system, and to utilize tracking
 460 forms for such purpose.
- 461 (15) Upon a request by a youth court, the Administrative 462 Office of Courts shall disclose all information at its disposal 463 concerning any previous youth court intakes alleging that a child 464 was a delinquent child, child in need of supervision, child in need of special care, truant child, abused child or neglected 465 466 child, as well as any previous youth court adjudications for the 467 same and all dispositional information concerning a child who at 468 the time of such request comes under the jurisdiction of the youth 469 court making such request.
- 470 (16) In every case where an abuse or neglect allegation has
 471 been made, the confidentiality provisions of this section shall
 472 not apply to prohibit access to a child's records by any state
 473 regulatory agency, any state or local prosecutorial agency or law
 474 enforcement agency; * * * however, * * * no identifying
 475 information concerning the child in question may be released to
 476 the public by such agency except as otherwise provided herein.
 - (17) In every case where there is any indication or

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- suggestion of either abuse or neglect and a child's physical
 condition is medically labeled as medically "serious" or

 "critical" or a child dies, the confidentiality provisions of this
 section shall not apply.
- 482 (18) Any member of a foster care review board designated by
 483 the Department of Human Services shall have the right to inspect
 484 youth court records relating to the abuse, neglect or child in
 485 need of supervision cases assigned to such member for review.
- SECTION 9. Section 43-21-621, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
- 488 43-21-621. (1) The youth court * * *, in compliance with

 489 the laws governing education of children, may order any

 490 state-supported public school in its jurisdiction, after notice

 491 and hearing, to enroll or reenroll any compulsory-school-age child
- 492 in school, and further order appropriate educational services. 493 * * * However, * * * the youth court shall not order the 494 enrollment or reenrollment of a student that has been suspended or 495 expelled by a public school pursuant to Section 37-9-71 or 496 37-7-301 for possession of a weapon on school grounds, for an 497 offense involving a threat to the safety of other persons or for the commission of a violent act. For the purpose of this section 498 499 "violent act" means any action which results in death or physical 500 harm to another or an attempt to cause death or physical harm to 501 another. The superintendent of the school district to which such 502 child is ordered may <u>assign</u>, in his discretion, * * * such child 503 to the alternative school program of such school established 504 pursuant to Section 37-13-92. The court shall have jurisdiction

to enforce school and education laws. Nothing in this section

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506 shall be construed to affect the attendance of a child in a 507 legitimate home instruction program.

- (2) The youth court may specify the following conditions of probation related to any juvenile ordered to enroll or reenroll in school: That the juvenile maintain passing grades in up to four (4) courses during each grading period and meet with the court counselor and a representative of the school to make a plan for how to maintain those passing grades.
- 514 (3) If the adjudication of delinquency was for an offense 515 involving a threat to the safety of the juvenile or others and 516 school attendance is a condition of probation, the youth court 517 judge shall require the youth counselor to notify the principal of the juvenile's school * * *. Within forty-eight (48) hours or 518 519 before the juvenile begins to attend school, whichever occurs 520 first, the youth court counsellor shall notify the principal of the juvenile's school in writing of the nature of the offense and 521 522 the probation requirements related to school attendance. A 523 principal notified by a juvenile court counselor shall handle the 524 report according to the guidelines and rules adopted by the State Board of Education. 525
- 526 (4) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to 527 the Legislature on the number of juveniles reported to principals 528 in accordance with this section no later than January 1, 1996.
- 529 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from 530 and after July 1, 2000.