

By: Woods, Eakes, Flaggs, Frierson, Holland, To: Education
Jennings

HOUSE BILL NO. 581

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN
2 THROUGH FIFTH GRADE TO ADDRESS SCHOOL EMPLOYEES WITH APPROPRIATE
3 TITLES OF RESPECT; TO REQUIRE THE POLICY TO BE PHASED IN FOR ALL
4 OTHER GRADES BY THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR; TO REQUIRE SCHOOL
5 DISTRICTS TO INCORPORATE THE POLICY IN THEIR DISCIPLINE PLANS AND
6 CODES OF STUDENT CONDUCT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. (1) Beginning with the 2000-2001 school year,
9 local school boards shall require all students in public school in
10 kindergarten through fifth grade to exhibit appropriate conduct as
11 required under Subsection (2) of this section.

12 (2) When any public school student is speaking with any public
13 school employee while on school property or at a school related
14 activity or event, the student shall address and respond to the
15 school employee by using the respectful terms "Yes, Ma'am" and
16 "No, Ma'am" or "Yes, Sir" and "No, Sir," as appropriate, or "Yes,
17 Miss, Mrs., or Ms. (Surname)" and "No, Miss, Mrs., or Ms.
18 (Surname)" or "Yes, Mr. (Surname)" and "No, Mr. (Surname)," as
19 appropriate, each such title to be followed by the appropriate
20 surname.

21 (3) Each school board shall provide for the incorporation of
22 the requirements of this section into the school district's
23 discipline plan and code of student conduct.

24 (4) Each school board shall take or provide for such
25 appropriate actions necessary to discipline any student who fails
26 to comply with the requirements of subsection (2) of this section.

27 However, no school board may provide suspension or expulsion from
28 school as an appropriate punishment for a violation of this

29 section.

30 (5) Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, subsection (2)
31 of this section also shall apply to public school students in
32 Grade 6. Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, subsection (2)
33 of this section also shall apply to public school students in
34 Grade 7. Beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, subsection (2)
35 of this section also shall apply to public school students in
36 Grade 8. Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, subsection (2)
37 of this section also shall apply to public school students in
38 Grade 9. Beginning with 2005-2006 school year, subsection (2) of
39 this section also shall apply to public school students in Grade
40 10. Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, subsection (2) of
41 this section also shall apply to public school students in Grade
42 11. Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, subsection 2 of
43 this section also shall apply to public school students in Grade
44 12.

45 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
46 and after July 1, 2000.