

By: Representative Brown

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 303

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO FLY THE UNITED STATES FLAG AT HALF-STAFF
3 WHENEVER A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER OR INSTRUCTIONS OR FEDERAL LAW
4 REQUIRES THE FLAG TO BE LOWERED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 37-13-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-13-5. (1) The flag of the State of Mississippi and the
9 flag of the United States shall be displayed in close proximity to
10 the school building at all times during the hours of daylight when
11 the school is in session when the weather will permit without
12 damage to the flag. It shall be the duty of the board of trustees
13 of the school district to provide for the flags and their display.

14 (2) Whenever the flag of the United States is to be flown at
15 half-staff by order or instructions of the President or pursuant
16 to federal law, all public schools shall lower the United States
17 flag in accordance with the executive order or instructions or
18 federal law. The school shall announce the reason that the flag
19 is being flown at half-staff to all students in assembly or by
20 teachers in the various classrooms or by prominently displaying
21 written notice throughout the school stating the reason that the
22 flag has been lowered.

23 (3) In all public schools there shall be given a course of
24 study concerning the flag of the United States and the flag of the
25 State of Mississippi. The course of study shall include the
26 history of each flag and what they represent and the proper
27 respect therefor. There also shall * * * be taught in the public

28 schools the duties and obligations of citizenship, patriotism,
29 Americanism and respect for and obedience to law.

30 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
31 and after July 1, 2001.