HOUSE BILL NO. 623

1   AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-3-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2   REQUIRE THE OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMPILE AND
3   INCLUDE IN THE MISSISSIPPI REPORT CARD DATA REFLECTING SCHOOL
4   DISTRICTS' SPENDING FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES COMPARED TO SPENDING
5   FOR NONEDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AND SPENDING ON CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY
6   COMPARED TO TOTAL DISTRICT SPENDING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8   SECTION 1. Section 37-3-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

9   amended as follows:

10   37-3-53. (1) Each school year, the State Board of

11   Education, acting through the Office of Educational

12   Accountability, shall develop a public school reporting system, or

13   "Mississippi Report Card," on the performance of students and

14   schools at the local, district and state level. In developing the

15   report card, the Office of Educational Accountability shall

16   collect school, district and state level student achievement data

17   in the appropriate grades as designated by the State Board of

18   Education in all core subjects, and compare the data with national

19   standards to identify students' strengths and weaknesses. The

20   Mississippi Report Card shall provide more than reports to parents

21   on the level at which their children are performing; the report

22   shall provide clear and comparable public information on the level

23   at which schools, school districts and the state public education

24   system are performing. The Office of Educational Accountability

25   shall encourage local school districts and the general public to

26   use Mississippi Report Card information along with local

27   individual student data to assess the quality of instructional

28   programs and the performance of schools and to plan and implement

29   programs of instructional improvement.

30   (2) ***** ***** ***** The Mississippi Report Card shall include

31 information, as compiled by the Office of Compulsory School

32 Attendance Enforcement, which demonstrates clearly the absenteeism

33 and dropout rates in each school district and the state and

34 whether those rates reflect a positive or negative change from the

35 same information as reported in the previous year's Mississippi

36 Report Card.

37   (3) (a) The Office of Educational Accountability shall

38 require each school district to annually submit a report to the

39 office comparing the district's spending for educational purposes

40 with spending for noneducational purposes. The report must

41 reflect total spending in the district without regard to the

42 source of funds. In order to assure uniformity among the reports

43 from the various school districts, the Office of Educational

44 Accountability shall promulgate reporting guidelines that

45 specifically define the components of the terms "educational

46 purposes" and "noneducational purposes." Data compiled from the

47 reports must be included in the Mississippi Report Card in a ratio

48 format that reflects each school district's spending for

49 educational purposes compared to spending for noneducational

50 purposes. In addition, the Office of Educational Accountability

51 shall assign a performance indicator to each school district's

52 spending ratio which may be used to compare spending patterns

53 among the various school districts.

54   (b) A school district shall include in the report

55 required under this subsection data comparing the district's

56 spending on classroom technology to the district's total spending.

57 The Office of Educational Accountability shall define the specific

58 components of the term "classroom technology." A ratio reflecting

59 each school district's spending for classroom technology purposes,

60 in comparison to total spending in the district, and a performance

61 indicator assigned by the Office of Educational Accountability

62 must be included in the Mississippi Report Card.

63   SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from

64 and after July 1, 2001.

H. B. No. 623 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
01/HR40/R453.1   ST: Mississippi report card; include data on
PAGE 3 (RM\BD)   districts' spending for educational and
                         noneducational purposes.