

By: Representatives Martinson, Cameron,  
Howell, Moore (60th), Smith (35th)

To: Education;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1428  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
2 ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION  
3 IN GRADES K-3 IN ONE SCHOOL IN EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; TO  
4 PRESCRIBE CERTAIN COMPONENTS OF THE RESEARCH-BASED READING  
5 INSTRUCTION WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SCHOOLS'  
6 CURRICULUM FOR GRADES K-3; TO REQUIRE STUDENTS IN THE PILOT  
7 SCHOOLS WHO EXHIBIT READING DEFICITS TO BE PROVIDED REMEDIAL  
8 INSTRUCTION; TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
9 IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF  
10 FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT TO THE  
11 LEGISLATURE ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION  
12 37-43-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE  
13 BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE CERTAIN SUPPLIERS OF READING AND  
14 LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS USED IN THE  
15 PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A REPORT INDICATING THE THEORETICAL  
16 FRAMEWORK OF THEIR PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS; AND FOR RELATED  
17 PURPOSES.

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

19 SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Education shall  
20 establish a pilot program under which the curriculum of students  
21 in Grades K-3 shall include research-based reading instruction.  
22 The department shall select one (1) elementary school in each  
23 congressional district to participate in the pilot program; the  
24 department shall designate no less than two (2) districts for  
25 participation in the pilot program by identifying those districts  
26 most characterized by poor academic performance, high incidences  
27 of delinquent acts and high food stamp participation. The various  
28 schools selected must represent urban, suburban and rural areas of  
29 the state. The curriculum in the pilot program schools for Grades  
30 K-3 must include the following research-based reading instruction  
31 for each of these grades:

32 (a) Direct systematic intensive instruction in phonemic  
33 awareness;

34 (b) explicit instruction in sound-symbol relationships  
35 (phonics);

36 (c) Ample practice in decodable texts to practice  
37 sound-spelling relationships;

38 (d) Varied text to develop language comprehension and  
39 fluency;

40 (e) Direct systematic intensive instruction in word  
41 attack skills;

42 (f) Age-appropriate direct systematic intensive  
43 instruction in highly regular sound-spelling relationships;

44 (g) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
45 vocabulary development and enhancement of background knowledge and  
46 motivation; and

47 (h) Direct systematic intensive instruction in grammar,  
48 punctuation and capitalization.

49 (2) The kindergarten through third-grade students in the  
50 pilot schools shall be administered informal and observational  
51 assessments to diagnosis reading deficits.

52 (3) Any student who exhibits reading deficits must be  
53 provided individualized remedial instruction, in addition to the  
54 regular curriculum of reading instruction, by the school district  
55 until the student achieves a level of basic reading and reading  
56 comprehension consistent with the national average.

57 (4) Participating schools in the pilot program shall utilize  
58 research-based reading instructional materials that have  
59 accompanying professional development.

60 (5) The State Department of Education shall implement the  
61 pilot program contingent on available funds for such purpose. No  
62 state funds shall be used for this program unless specifically  
63 authorized by the Legislature for such purpose.

64 (6) The State Department of Education shall submit an annual  
65 report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of the  
66 research-based reading instruction pilot program. The report must

67 include the test results from each school participating in the  
68 program and recommendations on remediation procedures.

69 SECTION 2. Section 37-43-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
70 amended as follows:

71 37-43-19. The board shall have the power and is \* \* \*  
72 authorized:

73 (a) To promulgate rules and regulations for the  
74 purchase, care, use, disposal, distribution and accounting for all  
75 books to be furnished under the terms of this chapter, and to  
76 promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary  
77 for the proper administration of this chapter.

78 (b) To adopt, contract for, and make available for  
79 purchase, cash or credit, basal, supplementary or alternative  
80 textbooks through twelve (12) grades as provided in the school  
81 curriculum, or for any other course that it may add to the school  
82 curriculum.

83 (c) To determine the period of contract for rated and  
84 adopted textbooks, which shall not be for less than four (4) years  
85 nor more than five (5) years, with the right of the board, in its  
86 discretion, to renew or extend such contract from year to year for  
87 a period not exceeding two (2) additional years and to determine  
88 the conditions of the approval or forfeiture of a contract and  
89 such other terms and conditions as may be necessary and not  
90 contrary to law.

91 (d) To have complete power and authority over additions  
92 and amendments to textbooks, advertising for bids and the contents  
93 thereof, including auxiliary materials and workbooks, advertising  
94 on the protective covers of textbooks, bids and proposals, prices  
95 of textbooks, specimen copies, cash deposits, selection and  
96 adoption, distribution, fumigation, emergencies, selling to  
97 others, return of deposits, forfeiture of deposits, regulations  
98 governing deposits, renovation and repair of books, requisition,  
99 transportation or shipment of books, and any other acts or

100 regulations, not contrary to law, that may be deemed necessary for  
101 furnishing and loaning free textbooks to the school children, as  
102 provided in this chapter.

103 (e) To require all suppliers of reading and language  
104 arts instructional programs and materials that are used in the  
105 schools participating in the pilot program established under  
106 Section 1 of House Bill No. 1428, 2001 Regular Session, which are  
107 purchased with either state funds or federal funds and which are  
108 administered by the state to provide a report indicating the  
109 theoretical framework of their programs and materials.

110 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
111 and after July 1, 2001.