

By: Representative Eads

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 270

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, 2002.

