

By: Representatives Lott, Clarke, Cameron,  
Evans, Fredericks, Frierson, Ketchings,  
Martinson, Moore (60th), Robertson

To: Education;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1605

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-133, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL EMPLOY A  
3 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR K-12; TO CODIFY NEW SECTION  
4 37-13-134, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO SPECIFY THE MINIMUM  
5 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR; TO PROVIDE  
6 THAT THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS, THE  
7 MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL ON OBESITY PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT, THE TASK  
8 FORCE ON HEART DISEASE AND STROKE PREVENTION AND THE MISSISSIPPI  
9 ALLIANCE FOR SCHOOL HEALTH SHALL PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE  
10 STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE  
11 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER  
12 THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THOSE ENTITIES IN EMPLOYING THE PHYSICAL  
13 ACTIVITY COORDINATOR; TO REQUIRE THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR  
14 TO PRESENT A STATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN EACH YEAR TO THOSE  
15 ENTITIES; TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE 2003-2004 SCHOOL  
16 YEAR, EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL WITH ANY OF GRADES K-6 SHALL PROVIDE FOR  
17 NOT LESS THAN THIRTY MINUTES OF QUALITY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR THE  
18 STUDENTS EACH SCHOOL DAY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE SCHOOLS SHALL  
19 COORDINATE THE PROVIDING OF THIS DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY WITH THE  
20 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR, AND THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY  
21 COORDINATOR SHALL PROMOTE AND SUPERVISE THE PROVIDING OF THIS  
22 DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY BY THE SCHOOLS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

24 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-13-133, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
25 amended as follows:

26 37-13-133. Under the provisions of Section 37-13-131, the  
27 State Department of Education may provide for the services of a  
28 School Health Services Coordinator, School Instruction  
29 Coordinator, School Environmental Specialist, \* \* \* and such other  
30 professional and nonprofessional staff as may be needed and as  
31 funds available to the department will permit. The State  
32 Department of Education shall employ a Physical Activity  
33 Coordinator K-12 not later than September 1, 2002, in accordance  
34 with the provisions of Section 37-13-134. It shall be the  
35 responsibility of that professional staff to coordinate efforts of  
36 the personnel of the State Department of Education, the state's  
37 colleges and universities, local public schools and other



38 appropriate agencies to provide the comprehensive health education  
39 curriculum.

40 **SECTION 2.** The following shall be codified as Section  
41 37-13-134, Mississippi Code of 1972:

42 37-13-134. (1) The Physical Activity Coordinator employed  
43 under Section 37-13-133 must have the qualifications prescribed in  
44 any of the following paragraphs, which are listed in the order of  
45 preference:

46 (a) A doctorate in physical education, exercise science  
47 or a highly related field, and at least three (3) years of  
48 experience in teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in  
49 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

50 (b) A master's degree in physical education, exercise  
51 science or a highly related field, and at least five (5) years of  
52 experience in teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in  
53 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

54 (c) A bachelor's degree in physical education, a  
55 teacher's license, and at least seven (7) years of experience in  
56 teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in physical activity  
57 promotion/fitness leadership.

58 (2) The Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness and Sports  
59 created under Section 7-1-551 et seq., the Mississippi Council on  
60 Obesity Prevention and Management created under Section 41-101-1  
61 et seq., the Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention  
62 created under Section 41-103-1 et seq., and the Mississippi  
63 Alliance for School Health shall provide recommendations to the  
64 State Department of Education regarding the employment of the  
65 Physical Activity Coordinator. The department shall consider the  
66 recommendations of those entities in employing the Physical  
67 Activity Coordinator.

68 (3) The Physical Activity Coordinator shall present a state  
69 physical activity plan each year to the Governor's Commission on  
70 Physical Fitness and Sports, the Mississippi Council on Obesity



71 Prevention and Management, the Task Force on Heart Disease and  
72 Stroke Prevention, and the Mississippi Alliance for School Health.

73 **SECTION 3.** Beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, each  
74 public school in the state with any of the grades K-6 shall  
75 provide for not less than thirty (30) minutes of quality physical  
76 activity for the students each school day. The schools shall  
77 coordinate the providing of this daily physical activity with the  
78 Physical Activity Coordinator of the State Department of  
79 Education, and the Physical Activity Coordinator shall promote and  
80 supervise the providing of this daily physical activity by the  
81 schools.

82 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
83 and after July 1, 2002.

