

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2224

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-3-87, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A PERMANENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR
3 THE STUDENT VISION SCREENING PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-3-87, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 37-3-87. (1) The State Department of Education is hereby
8 authorized and empowered to establish a student vision screening
9 program to make eye screening services available to students in
10 Grades K-12 in the public schools in order to detect vision
11 problems which can lead to academic problems. Such eye screening
12 service shall be based on a process that is screening in nature,
13 and not diagnostic, which is intended to identify with a
14 reasonably high probability, students with a wide range of eye
15 problems who should seek the services of an eye care professional
16 for examination, diagnosis and corrective recommendation. Such
17 eye screening service shall provide each student screened with a
18 report of the student's screening results to be taken home. Each
19 school shall be provided with a list of the students screened, and
20 their results. Statistical summaries of the screening results
21 shall be provided to each school, and composite statistics by
22 school system, county or district shall be provided to the State
23 Department of Education. The State Department of Education may
24 contract with any legal entity to administer the student vision
25 screening program on the school district level, and such contract
26 shall be let on a competitive basis. State funding for said



27 program shall only be available subject to appropriation by the
28 Legislature.

29 (2) The school board of any local school district shall
30 cooperate with the State Department of Education and any entity
31 under contract with the department to implement the student vision
32 screening program established under this section.

33 * * *

34 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
35 and after July 1, 2002.

