

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2225
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-15-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PRESCRIBE THE TYPE OF EVIDENCE OF DATE OF BIRTH REQUIRED FOR A
3 CHILD TO ENROLL IN KINDERGARTEN OR GRADE 1; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-15-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-15-1. The State Board of Education shall prepare and
9 provide necessary forms for keeping permanent records and
10 cumulative folders for each pupil in the public schools of the
11 state. In the permanent record and cumulative folders, the
12 teachers and principals shall keep information concerning the
13 pupil's date of birth, as verified by the documentation authorized
14 in this section, record of attendance, grades and withdrawal from
15 the school, including the date of any expulsion from the school
16 system and a description of the student's act or behavior
17 resulting in the expulsion. The records also shall contain
18 information pertaining to immunization and such other information
19 as the State Board of Education may prescribe. The cumulative
20 folder, in addition to that information maintained in the
21 permanent records, also shall contain such other information as
22 the State Board of Education shall prescribe. It shall be the
23 responsibility of the person in charge of each school to enforce
24 the requirement for evidence of the age of each pupil before
25 enrollment. If the first prescribed evidence is not available,
26 the next evidence obtainable in the order set forth below shall be
27 accepted:

28 (a) A certified birth certificate;



29 (b) A duly attested transcript of a certificate of
30 baptism showing the date of birth and place of baptism of the
31 child, accompanied by an affidavit sworn to by a parent,
32 grandparent or custodian;

33 (c) An insurance policy on the child's life which has
34 been in force for at least two (2) years;

35 (d) A bona fide contemporary Bible record of the
36 child's birth accompanied by an affidavit sworn to by the parent,
37 grandparent or custodian;

38 (e) A passport or certificate of arrival in the United
39 States showing the age of the child;

40 (f) A transcript of record of age shown in the child's
41 school record of at least four (4) years prior to application,
42 stating date of birth; or

43 (g) If none of these evidences can be produced, an
44 affidavit of age sworn to by a parent, grandparent or custodian.

45 Any child enrolling in Kindergarten or Grade 1 shall present the
46 required evidence of age upon enrollment. Any child in Grades 2
47 through 12 not in compliance at the end of sixty (60) days from
48 enrollment shall be suspended until in compliance.

49 This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2003.

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

