

By: Senator(s) Little, Burton, Robertson, Jackson, Minor, Stogner, Smith, Carmichael, Chaney, Dearing, Dickerson, Gordon, Hewes, Johnson (19th), King, Kirby, Moffatt, Posey, Ross, Thames, White (29th), Hyde-Smith, Jordan, Gollott, Furniss, Chamberlin, Hamilton, White (5th), Harvey, Canon, Harden, Farris

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2321
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO CODIFY SECTION 37-13-6, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE UNITED STATES FLAG SHALL BE DISPLAYED IN EACH
3 PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM AT ALL TIMES WHILE SCHOOL IS IN SESSION;
4 TO REQUIRE EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE STUDENT INSTRUCTION IN
5 THE PROPER ETIQUETTE TOWARD, CORRECT DISPLAY OF, AND RESPECT FOR
6 THE FLAG, AND IN PATRIOTIC EXERCISES; TO REQUIRE THE DAILY
7 RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG
8 AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST HOUR OF CLASS; AND FOR RELATED
9 PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** The following provision shall be codified as
12 Section 37-13-6, Mississippi Code of 1972:

13 37-13-6. (1) The flag of the United States shall be
14 displayed in close proximity to the school building, on a proper
15 staff, at all times during the hours of daylight when the school
16 is in session when the weather will permit without damage to the
17 flag. In addition, the flag of the United States shall be
18 displayed in each classroom and in each principal room of the
19 school building at all times while school is in session. It shall
20 be the duty of the school boards of each school district to
21 provide for the flags, proper flag staffs and their proper
22 display. Each school district shall provide student instruction
23 in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect
24 for the flag, and in patriotic exercises. The instruction shall
25 be a part of the district's fifth grade social studies curriculum
26 or history curriculum, with the assistance of the State Department
27 of Education.

28 (2) From and after July 1, 2002, the school boards of all
29 public schools of this state shall require the teachers under
30 their control to have all pupils repeat the oath of allegiance to



31 the flag of the United States of America at the beginning of the
32 first hour of class each day school is in session, such oath of
33 allegiance being as follows:

34 "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of
35 America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under
36 God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

37 Any student or teacher who objects to reciting the oath of
38 allegiance shall be excused from participating without penalty.

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

