

By: Representative Ford

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 767

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-15-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 EXTEND THE REPEALER ON THE REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF AGE FOR ENROLLMENT
3 IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 37-15-1. The State Board of Education shall prepare and
8 provide necessary forms for keeping permanent records and
9 cumulative folders for each pupil in the public schools of the
10 state. In the permanent record and cumulative folders, the
11 teachers and principals shall keep information concerning the
12 pupil's date of birth, as verified by the documentation authorized
13 in this section, record of attendance, grades and withdrawal from
14 the school, including the date of any expulsion from the school
15 system and a description of the student's act or behavior
16 resulting in the expulsion. The records also shall contain
17 information pertaining to immunization and such other information
18 as the State Board of Education may prescribe. The cumulative
19 folder, in addition to that information maintained in the
20 permanent records, also shall contain such other information as
21 the State Board of Education shall prescribe. It shall be the
22 responsibility of the person in charge of each school to enforce
23 the requirement for evidence of the age of each pupil before
24 enrollment. If the first prescribed evidence is not available,
25 the next evidence obtainable in the order set forth below shall be
26 accepted:

27 (a) A certified birth certificate;



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

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

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

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

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

42 (g) If none of these evidences can be produced, an
43 affidavit of age sworn to by a parent, grandparent or custodian.
44 Any child enrolling in Kindergarten or Grade 1 shall present the
45 required evidence of age upon enrollment. Any child in Grades 2
46 through 12 not in compliance at the end of sixty (60) days from
47 enrollment shall be suspended until in compliance.

48 This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2004.

49 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
50 and after July 1, 2003.

