

By: Representatives Brown, Weathersby, Lott, Montgomery To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 214  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DESIGN  
2 CURRICULUM CHOICES FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DIRECT ENTRY  
3 INTO THE WORKFORCE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;  
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. The State Department of Education shall design  
7 curriculum choices within the current requirements for a high  
8 school diploma for students who are interested in direct entry  
9 into the workforce immediately following high school graduation.  
10 It is the intent of the Legislature that the curriculum for this  
11 program be rigorous, meeting the requirements based on research  
12 outlining the skills needed for entry into the workforce. The  
13 program shall comply with the federal No Child Left Behind Act.  
14 The department shall design the program for entering ninth graders  
15 beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. The department shall  
16 report to the Legislature on January 1, 2007, on its plan for the  
17 program. Students who choose the curriculum under the program  
18 will receive a standard diploma.

19 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a new  
20 section in Chapter 3, Title 37, Mississippi Code of 1972.

21 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
22 and after July 1, 2006.