

By: Representative Brown

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 309

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-1-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT ALL SCHOOLS,
3 INCLUDING CHARTER SCHOOLS, PROVIDE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS WITH
4 INFORMATION ABOUT MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE; TO AMEND SECTION
5 37-7-301, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS
6 TO PROVIDE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT
7 MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE; TO REQUIRE NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE
8 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT MENINGOCOCCAL
9 DISEASE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-1-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
12 amended as follows:

13 37-1-3. (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
14 and regulations and set standards and policies for the
15 organization, operation, management, planning, budgeting and
16 programs of the State Department of Education.

17 (a) The board is directed to identify all functions of
18 the department that contribute to or comprise a part of the state
19 system of educational accountability and to establish and maintain
20 within the department the necessary organizational structure,
21 policies and procedures for effectively coordinating such
22 functions. Such policies and procedures shall clearly fix and
23 delineate responsibilities for various aspects of the system and
24 for overall coordination of the total system and its effective
25 management.

26 (b) The board shall establish and maintain a
27 system-wide plan of performance, policy and directions of public
28 education not otherwise provided for.

29 (c) The board shall effectively use the personnel and
30 resources of the department to enhance technical assistance to
31 school districts in instruction and management therein.

32 (d) The board shall establish and maintain a central
33 budget policy.

34 (e) The board shall establish and maintain within the
35 State Department of Education a central management capacity under
36 the direction of the State Superintendent of Public Education.

37 (f) The board, with recommendations from the
38 superintendent, shall design and maintain a five-year plan and
39 program for educational improvement that shall set forth
40 objectives for system performance and development and be the basis
41 for budget requests and legislative initiatives.

42 (g) The board shall ensure that all schools, including
43 charter schools, provide parents and guardians with information
44 about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination
45 against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school
46 year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms and
47 means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places
48 where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and
49 vaccinations for their children. Nothing in this section shall be
50 construed to require the board or school to provide or purchase
51 vaccine against meningococcal disease.

52 (2) (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt and
53 maintain a curriculum and a course of study to be used in the
54 public schools that is designed to prepare the state's children
55 and youth to be productive, informed, creative citizens, workers
56 and leaders, and it shall regulate all matters arising in the
57 practical administration of the school system not otherwise
58 provided for.

59 (b) Before the 1999-2000 school year, the State Board
60 of Education shall develop personal living and finances objectives
61 that focus on money management skills for individuals and families

62 for appropriate, existing courses at the secondary level. The
63 objectives must require the teaching of those skills necessary to
64 handle personal business and finances and must include instruction
65 in the following:

- 66 (i) Opening a bank account and assessing the
67 quality of a bank's services;
- 68 (ii) Balancing a checkbook;
- 69 (iii) Managing debt, including retail and credit
70 card debt;
- 71 (iv) Completing a loan application;
- 72 (v) The implications of an inheritance;
- 73 (vi) The basics of personal insurance policies;
- 74 (vii) Consumer rights and responsibilities;
- 75 (viii) Dealing with salesmen and merchants;
- 76 (ix) Computing state and federal income taxes;
- 77 (x) Local tax assessments;
- 78 (xi) Computing interest rates by various
79 mechanisms;
- 80 (xii) Understanding simple contracts; and
- 81 (xiii) Contesting an incorrect billing statement.

82 (3) The State Board of Education shall have authority to
83 expend any available federal funds, or any other funds expressly
84 designated, to pay training, educational expenses, salary
85 incentives and salary supplements to licensed teachers employed in
86 local school districts or schools administered by the State Board
87 of Education. Such incentive payments shall not be considered
88 part of a school district's local supplement as defined in Section
89 37-151-5(o), nor shall the incentives be considered part of the
90 local supplement paid to an individual teacher for the purposes of
91 Section 37-19-7(1). MAEP funds or any other state funds shall not
92 be used to provide such incentives unless specifically authorized
93 by law.

94 (4) The State Board of Education shall through its actions
95 seek to implement the policies set forth in Section 37-1-2.

96 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-7-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
97 amended as follows:

98 37-7-301. The school boards of all school districts shall
99 have the following powers, authority and duties in addition to all
100 others imposed or granted by law, to wit:

101 (a) To organize and operate the schools of the district
102 and to make such division between the high school grades and
103 elementary grades as, in their judgment, will serve the best
104 interests of the school;

105 (b) To introduce public school music, art, manual
106 training and other special subjects into either the elementary or
107 high school grades, as the board shall deem proper;

108 (c) To be the custodians of real and personal school
109 property and to manage, control and care for same, both during the
110 school term and during vacation;

111 (d) To have responsibility for the erection, repairing
112 and equipping of school facilities and the making of necessary
113 school improvements;

114 (e) To suspend or to expel a pupil or to change the
115 placement of a pupil to the school district's alternative school
116 or home-bound program for misconduct in the school or on school
117 property, as defined in Section 37-11-29, on the road to and from
118 school, or at any school-related activity or event, or for conduct
119 occurring on property other than school property or other than at
120 a school-related activity or event when such conduct by a pupil,
121 in the determination of the school superintendent or principal,
122 renders that pupil's presence in the classroom a disruption to the
123 educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best
124 interest and welfare of the pupils and teacher of such class as a
125 whole, and to delegate such authority to the appropriate officials
126 of the school district;

127 (f) To visit schools in the district, in their
128 discretion, in a body for the purpose of determining what can be
129 done for the improvement of the school in a general way;

130 (g) To support, within reasonable limits, the
131 superintendent, principal and teachers where necessary for the
132 proper discipline of the school;

133 (h) To exclude from the schools students with what
134 appears to be infectious or contagious diseases; provided,
135 however, such student may be allowed to return to school upon
136 presenting a certificate from a public health officer, duly
137 licensed physician or nurse practitioner that the student is free
138 from such disease;

139 (i) To require those vaccinations specified by the
140 State Health Officer as provided in Section 41-23-37, Mississippi
141 Code of 1972;

142 (j) To see that all necessary utilities and services
143 are provided in the schools at all times when same are needed;

144 (k) To authorize the use of the school buildings and
145 grounds for the holding of public meetings and gatherings of the
146 people under such regulations as may be prescribed by said board;

147 (l) To prescribe and enforce rules and regulations not
148 inconsistent with law or with the regulations of the State Board
149 of Education for their own government and for the government of
150 the schools, and to transact their business at regular and special
151 meetings called and held in the manner provided by law;

152 (m) To maintain and operate all of the schools under
153 their control for such length of time during the year as may be
154 required;

155 (n) To enforce in the schools the courses of study and
156 the use of the textbooks prescribed by the proper authorities;

157 (o) To make orders directed to the superintendent of
158 schools for the issuance of pay certificates for lawful purposes
159 on any available funds of the district and to have full control of

160 the receipt, distribution, allotment and disbursement of all funds
161 provided for the support and operation of the schools of such
162 school district whether such funds be derived from state
163 appropriations, local ad valorem tax collections, or otherwise.
164 The local school board shall be authorized and empowered to
165 promulgate rules and regulations that specify the types of claims
166 and set limits of the dollar amount for payment of claims by the
167 superintendent of schools to be ratified by the board at the next
168 regularly scheduled meeting after payment has been made;

169 (p) To select all school district personnel in the
170 manner provided by law, and to provide for such employee fringe
171 benefit programs, including accident reimbursement plans, as may
172 be deemed necessary and appropriate by the board;

173 (q) To provide athletic programs and other school
174 activities and to regulate the establishment and operation of such
175 programs and activities;

176 (r) To join, in their discretion, any association of
177 school boards and other public school-related organizations, and
178 to pay from local funds other than minimum foundation funds, any
179 membership dues;

180 (s) To expend local school activity funds, or other
181 available school district funds, other than minimum education
182 program funds, for the purposes prescribed under this paragraph.
183 "Activity funds" shall mean all funds received by school officials
184 in all school districts paid or collected to participate in any
185 school activity, such activity being part of the school program
186 and partially financed with public funds or supplemented by public
187 funds. The term "activity funds" shall not include any funds
188 raised and/or expended by any organization unless commingled in a
189 bank account with existing activity funds, regardless of whether
190 the funds were raised by school employees or received by school
191 employees during school hours or using school facilities, and
192 regardless of whether a school employee exercises influence over

193 the expenditure or disposition of such funds. Organizations shall
194 not be required to make any payment to any school for the use of
195 any school facility if, in the discretion of the local school
196 governing board, the organization's function shall be deemed to be
197 beneficial to the official or extracurricular programs of the
198 school. For the purposes of this provision, the term
199 "organization" shall not include any organization subject to the
200 control of the local school governing board. Activity funds may
201 only be expended for any necessary expenses or travel costs,
202 including advances, incurred by students and their chaperons in
203 attending any in-state or out-of-state school-related programs,
204 conventions or seminars and/or any commodities, equipment, travel
205 expenses, purchased services or school supplies which the local
206 school governing board, in its discretion, shall deem beneficial
207 to the official or extracurricular programs of the district,
208 including items which may subsequently become the personal
209 property of individuals, including yearbooks, athletic apparel,
210 book covers and trophies. Activity funds may be used to pay
211 travel expenses of school district personnel. The local school
212 governing board shall be authorized and empowered to promulgate
213 rules and regulations specifically designating for what purposes
214 school activity funds may be expended. The local school governing
215 board shall provide (i) that such school activity funds shall be
216 maintained and expended by the principal of the school generating
217 the funds in individual bank accounts, or (ii) that such school
218 activity funds shall be maintained and expended by the
219 superintendent of schools in a central depository approved by the
220 board. The local school governing board shall provide that such
221 school activity funds be audited as part of the annual audit
222 required in Section 37-9-18. The State Auditor shall prescribe a
223 uniform system of accounting and financial reporting for all
224 school activity fund transactions;

225 (t) To contract, on a shared savings, lease or
226 lease-purchase basis, for energy efficiency services and/or
227 equipment as provided for in Section 31-7-14, not to exceed ten
228 (10) years;

229 (u) To maintain accounts and issue pay certificates on
230 school food service bank accounts;

231 (v) (i) To lease a school building from an individual,
232 partnership, nonprofit corporation or a private for-profit
233 corporation for the use of such school district, and to expend
234 funds therefor as may be available from any nonminimum program
235 sources. The school board of the school district desiring to
236 lease a school building shall declare by resolution that a need
237 exists for a school building and that the school district cannot
238 provide the necessary funds to pay the cost or its proportionate
239 share of the cost of a school building required to meet the
240 present needs. The resolution so adopted by the school board
241 shall be published once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks
242 in a newspaper having a general circulation in the school district
243 involved, with the first publication thereof to be made not less
244 than thirty (30) days prior to the date upon which the school
245 board is to act on the question of leasing a school building. If
246 no petition requesting an election is filed prior to such meeting
247 as hereinafter provided, then the school board may, by resolution
248 spread upon its minutes, proceed to lease a school building. If
249 at any time prior to said meeting a petition signed by not less
250 than twenty percent (20%) or fifteen hundred (1500), whichever is
251 less, of the qualified electors of the school district involved
252 shall be filed with the school board requesting that an election
253 be called on the question, then the school board shall, not later
254 than the next regular meeting, adopt a resolution calling an
255 election to be held within such school district upon the question
256 of authorizing the school board to lease a school building. Such
257 election shall be called and held, and notice thereof shall be

258 given, in the same manner for elections upon the questions of the
259 issuance of the bonds of school districts, and the results thereof
260 shall be certified to the school board. If at least three-fifths
261 (3/5) of the qualified electors of the school district who voted
262 in such election shall vote in favor of the leasing of a school
263 building, then the school board shall proceed to lease a school
264 building. The term of the lease contract shall not exceed twenty
265 (20) years, and the total cost of such lease shall be either the
266 amount of the lowest and best bid accepted by the school board
267 after advertisement for bids or an amount not to exceed the
268 current fair market value of the lease as determined by the
269 averaging of at least two (2) appraisals by certified general
270 appraisers licensed by the State of Mississippi. The term "school
271 building" as used in this paragraph (v)(i) shall be construed to
272 mean any building or buildings used for classroom purposes in
273 connection with the operation of schools and shall include the
274 site therefor, necessary support facilities, and the equipment
275 thereof and appurtenances thereto such as heating facilities,
276 water supply, sewage disposal, landscaping, walks, drives and
277 playgrounds. The term "lease" as used in this paragraph (v)(i)
278 may include a lease/purchase contract;

279 (ii) If two (2) or more school districts propose
280 to enter into a lease contract jointly, then joint meetings of the
281 school boards having control may be held but no action taken shall
282 be binding on any such school district unless the question of
283 leasing a school building is approved in each participating school
284 district under the procedure hereinabove set forth in paragraph
285 (v)(i). All of the provisions of paragraph (v)(i) regarding the
286 term and amount of the lease contract shall apply to the school
287 boards of school districts acting jointly. Any lease contract
288 executed by two (2) or more school districts as joint lessees
289 shall set out the amount of the aggregate lease rental to be paid
290 by each, which may be agreed upon, but there shall be no right of

291 occupancy by any lessee unless the aggregate rental is paid as
292 stipulated in the lease contract. All rights of joint lessees
293 under the lease contract shall be in proportion to the amount of
294 lease rental paid by each;

295 (w) To employ all noninstructional and noncertificated
296 employees and fix the duties and compensation of such personnel
297 deemed necessary pursuant to the recommendation of the
298 superintendent of schools;

299 (x) To employ and fix the duties and compensation of
300 such legal counsel as deemed necessary;

301 (y) Subject to rules and regulations of the State Board
302 of Education, to purchase, own and operate trucks, vans and other
303 motor vehicles, which shall bear the proper identification
304 required by law;

305 (z) To expend funds for the payment of substitute
306 teachers and to adopt reasonable regulations for the employment
307 and compensation of such substitute teachers;

308 (aa) To acquire in its own name by purchase all real
309 property which shall be necessary and desirable in connection with
310 the construction, renovation or improvement of any public school
311 building or structure. Whenever the purchase price for such real
312 property is greater than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), the
313 school board shall not purchase the property for an amount
314 exceeding the fair market value of such property as determined by
315 the average of at least two (2) independent appraisals by
316 certified general appraisers licensed by the State of Mississippi.
317 If the board shall be unable to agree with the owner of any such
318 real property in connection with any such project, the board shall
319 have the power and authority to acquire any such real property by
320 condemnation proceedings pursuant to Section 11-27-1 et seq.,
321 Mississippi Code of 1972, and for such purpose, the right of
322 eminent domain is hereby conferred upon and vested in said board.
323 Provided further, that the local school board is authorized to

324 grant an easement for ingress and egress over sixteenth section
325 land or lieu land in exchange for a similar easement upon
326 adjoining land where the exchange of easements affords substantial
327 benefit to the sixteenth section land; provided, however, the
328 exchange must be based upon values as determined by a competent
329 appraiser, with any differential in value to be adjusted by cash
330 payment. Any easement rights granted over sixteenth section land
331 under such authority shall terminate when the easement ceases to
332 be used for its stated purpose. No sixteenth section or lieu land
333 which is subject to an existing lease shall be burdened by any
334 such easement except by consent of the lessee or unless the school
335 district shall acquire the unexpired leasehold interest affected
336 by the easement;

337 (bb) To charge reasonable fees related to the
338 educational programs of the district, in the manner prescribed in
339 Section 37-7-335;

340 (cc) Subject to rules and regulations of the State
341 Board of Education, to purchase relocatable classrooms for the use
342 of such school district, in the manner prescribed in Section
343 37-1-13;

344 (dd) Enter into contracts or agreements with other
345 school districts, political subdivisions or governmental entities
346 to carry out one or more of the powers or duties of the school
347 board, or to allow more efficient utilization of limited resources
348 for providing services to the public;

349 (ee) To provide for in-service training for employees
350 of the district. Until June 30, 1994, the school boards may
351 designate two (2) days of the minimum school term, as defined in
352 Section 37-19-1, for employee in-service training for
353 implementation of the new statewide testing system as developed by
354 the State Board of Education. Such designation shall be subject
355 to approval by the State Board of Education pursuant to uniform
356 rules and regulations;

357 (ff) As part of their duties to prescribe the use of
358 textbooks, to provide that parents and legal guardians shall be
359 responsible for the textbooks and for the compensation to the
360 school district for any books which are not returned to the proper
361 schools upon the withdrawal of their dependent child. If a
362 textbook is lost or not returned by any student who drops out of
363 the public school district, the parent or legal guardian shall
364 also compensate the school district for the fair market value of
365 the textbooks;

366 (gg) To conduct fund-raising activities on behalf of
367 the school district that the local school board, in its
368 discretion, deems appropriate or beneficial to the official or
369 extracurricular programs of the district; provided that:

370 (i) Any proceeds of the fund-raising activities
371 shall be treated as "activity funds" and shall be accounted for as
372 are other activity funds under this section; and

373 (ii) Fund-raising activities conducted or
374 authorized by the board for the sale of school pictures, the
375 rental of caps and gowns or the sale of graduation invitations for
376 which the school board receives a commission, rebate or fee shall
377 contain a disclosure statement advising that a portion of the
378 proceeds of the sales or rentals shall be contributed to the
379 student activity fund;

380 (hh) To allow individual lessons for music, art and
381 other curriculum-related activities for academic credit or
382 nonacademic credit during school hours and using school equipment
383 and facilities, subject to uniform rules and regulations adopted
384 by the school board;

385 (ii) To charge reasonable fees for participating in an
386 extracurricular activity for academic or nonacademic credit for
387 necessary and required equipment such as safety equipment, band
388 instruments and uniforms;

389 (jj) To conduct or participate in any fund-raising
390 activities on behalf of or in connection with a tax-exempt
391 charitable organization;

392 (kk) To exercise such powers as may be reasonably
393 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section;

394 (ll) To expend funds for the services of nonprofit arts
395 organizations or other such nonprofit organizations who provide
396 performances or other services for the students of the school
397 district;

398 (mm) To expend federal No Child Left Behind Act funds,
399 or any other available funds that are expressly designated and
400 authorized for that use, to pay training, educational expenses,
401 salary incentives and salary supplements to employees of local
402 school districts; except that incentives shall not be considered
403 part of the local supplement as defined in Section 37-151-5(o),
404 nor shall incentives be considered part of the local supplement
405 paid to an individual teacher for the purposes of Section
406 37-19-7(1). Mississippi Adequate Education Program funds or any
407 other state funds may not be used for salary incentives or salary
408 supplements as provided in this paragraph (mm);

409 (nn) To use any available funds, not appropriated or
410 designated for any other purpose, for reimbursement to the
411 state-licensed employees from both in-state and out-of-state, who
412 enter into a contract for employment in a school district, for the
413 expense of moving when the employment necessitates the relocation
414 of the licensed employee to a different geographical area than
415 that in which the licensed employee resides before entering into
416 the contract. The reimbursement shall not exceed One Thousand
417 Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the documented actual expenses incurred in
418 the course of relocating, including the expense of any
419 professional moving company or persons employed to assist with the
420 move, rented moving vehicles or equipment, mileage in the amount
421 authorized for county and municipal employees under Section

422 25-3-41 if the licensed employee used his personal vehicle or
423 vehicles for the move, meals and such other expenses associated
424 with the relocation. No licensed employee may be reimbursed for
425 moving expenses under this section on more than one (1) occasion
426 by the same school district. Nothing in this section shall be
427 construed to require the actual residence to which the licensed
428 employee relocates to be within the boundaries of the school
429 district that has executed a contract for employment in order for
430 the licensed employee to be eligible for reimbursement for the
431 moving expenses. However, the licensed employee must relocate
432 within the boundaries of the State of Mississippi. Any individual
433 receiving relocation assistance through the Critical Teacher
434 Shortage Act as provided in Section 37-159-5 shall not be eligible
435 to receive additional relocation funds as authorized in this
436 paragraph;

437 (oo) To use any available funds, not appropriated or
438 designated for any other purpose, to reimburse persons who
439 interview for employment as a licensed employee with the district
440 for the mileage and other actual expenses incurred in the course
441 of travel to and from the interview at the rate authorized for
442 county and municipal employees under Section 25-3-41;

443 (pp) Consistent with the report of the Task Force to
444 Conduct a Best Financial Management Practices Review, to improve
445 school district management and use of resources and identify cost
446 savings as established in Section 8 of Chapter 610, Laws of 2002,
447 local school boards are encouraged to conduct independent reviews
448 of the management and efficiency of schools and school districts.
449 Such management and efficiency reviews shall provide state and
450 local officials and the public with the following:

451 (i) An assessment of a school district's
452 governance and organizational structure;

453 (ii) An assessment of the school district's
454 financial and personnel management;

455 (iii) An assessment of revenue levels and sources;
456 (iv) An assessment of facilities utilization,
457 planning and maintenance;
458 (v) An assessment of food services, transportation
459 and safety/security systems;
460 (vi) An assessment of instructional and
461 administrative technology;
462 (vii) A review of the instructional management and
463 the efficiency and effectiveness of existing instructional
464 programs; and
465 (viii) Recommended methods for increasing
466 efficiency and effectiveness in providing educational services to
467 the public;
468 (qq) To enter into agreements with other local school
469 boards for the establishment of an educational service agency
470 (ESA) to provide for the cooperative needs of the region in which
471 the school district is located, as provided in Section 37-7-345.
472 This paragraph shall repeal on July 1, 2007;
473 (rr) To implement a financial literacy program for
474 students in Grades 10 and 11. The board may review the national
475 programs and obtain free literature from various nationally
476 recognized programs. After review of the different programs, the
477 board may certify a program that is most appropriate for the
478 school districts' needs. If a district implements a financial
479 literacy program, then any student in Grade 10 or 11 may
480 participate in the program. The financial literacy program shall
481 include, but is not limited to, instruction in the same areas of
482 personal business and finance as required under Section
483 37-1-3(2)(b). The school board may coordinate with volunteer
484 teachers from local community organizations, including, but not
485 limited to, the following: United States Department of
486 Agriculture Rural Development, United States Department of Housing
487 and Urban Development, Junior Achievement, bankers and other

488 nonprofit organizations. Nothing in this paragraph shall be
489 construed as to require school boards to implement a financial
490 literacy program;

491 (ss) To collaborate with the State Board of Education,
492 Community Action Agencies or the Department of Human Services to
493 develop and implement a voluntary program to provide services for
494 a full-day prekindergarten program that addresses the cognitive,
495 social, and emotional needs of four-year-old and three-year-old
496 children. The school board may utilize nonstate source special
497 funds, grants, donations or gifts to fund the voluntary program;

498 (tt) With respect to any lawful, written obligation of
499 a school district, including, but not limited to, leases
500 (excluding leases of sixteenth section public school trust land),
501 bonds, notes, or other agreement, to agree in writing with the
502 obligee that the State Tax Commission or any state agency,
503 department or commission created under state law may:

504 (i) Withhold all or any part (as agreed by the
505 school board) of any monies which such local school board is
506 entitled to receive from time to time under any law and which is
507 in the possession of the State Tax Commission, or any state
508 agency, department or commission created under state law; and

509 (ii) Pay the same over to any financial
510 institution, trustee or other obligee, as directed in writing by
511 the school board, to satisfy all or part of such obligation of the
512 school district.

513 The school board may make such written agreement to withhold
514 and transfer funds irrevocable for the term of the written
515 obligation and may include in the written agreement any other
516 terms and provisions acceptable to the school board. If the
517 school board files a copy of such written agreement with the State
518 Tax Commission, or any state agency, department or commission
519 created under state law then the State Tax Commission or any state
520 agency, department or commission created under state law shall

521 immediately make the withholdings provided in such agreement from
522 the amounts due the local school board and shall continue to pay
523 the same over to such financial institution, trustee or obligee
524 for the term of the agreement.

525 This paragraph (tt) shall not grant any extra authority to a
526 school board to issue debt in any amount exceeding statutory
527 limitations on assessed value of taxable property within such
528 school district or the statutory limitations on debt maturities,
529 and shall not grant any extra authority to impose, levy or collect
530 a tax which is not otherwise expressly provided for, and shall not
531 be construed to apply to sixteenth section public school trust
532 land;

533 (uu) With respect to any matter or transaction that is
534 competitively bid by a school district, to accept from any bidder
535 as a good faith deposit or bid bond or bid surety, the same type
536 of good faith deposit or bid bond or bid surety that may be
537 accepted by the state or any other political subdivision on
538 similar competitively bid matters or transactions. This paragraph
539 (uu) shall not be construed to apply to sixteenth section public
540 school trust land. The school board may authorize the investment
541 of any school district funds in the same kind and manner of
542 investments, including pooled investments, as any other political
543 subdivision, including community hospitals; * * *

544 (vv) To utilize the alternate method for the conveyance
545 or exchange of unused school buildings and/or land, reserving a
546 partial or other undivided interest in the property, as
547 specifically authorized and provided in Section 37-7-485,
548 Mississippi Code of 1972; and

549 (ww) The board shall provide parents and guardians with
550 information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of
551 vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of
552 every school year. This information shall include the causes,
553 symptoms and means by which meningococcal disease is spread and

554 the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional
555 information and vaccinations for their children. Nothing in this
556 section shall be construed to require the board or school to
557 provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

558 **SECTION 3.** Nonpublic schools in this state shall provide
559 parents and guardians with information about meningococcal disease
560 and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease
561 at the beginning of every school year. This information shall
562 include the causes, symptoms and means by which meningococcal
563 disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may
564 obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children.
565 Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the school
566 to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

567 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
568 and after July 1, 2006.