

By: Senator(s) Chaney

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2049

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 12 OF CHAPTER 508, LAWS OF 2005, TO
2 EXTEND FOR ONE YEAR THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND
3 REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONCEPT IN
4 MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 12 of Chapter 508, Laws of 2005, is
7 hereby amended to read as follows:

8 Section 12. (1) There is created and continued a commission
9 to study and report on the feasibility of the charter school
10 concept in the State of Mississippi through best practiced
11 innovations. The commission's study and report shall include, at
12 a minimum:

13 (a) An assessment of the educational, economical,
14 cultural and social impact of establishing a comprehensive charter
15 school system for Mississippi's traditional public schools;

16 (b) An evaluation of the specific standards applied
17 during the application process of a charter school system;

18 (c) A comparison and an analysis of other states'
19 charter school programs; and

20 (d) An analysis of the cost impact that a charter
21 school program will have upon state and local budgets.

22 (2) The commission shall be composed of the following
23 thirteen (13) members:

24 (a) The Chairman of the Education Committee of the
25 Mississippi House of Representatives;

26 (b) Two (2) members of the Education Committee of the
27 Mississippi House of Representatives, to be appointed by the
28 Speaker of the House;

29 (c) The Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the
30 Mississippi House of Representatives;

31 (d) The Chairman of the Education Committee of the
32 Mississippi Senate;

33 (e) Two (2) members of the Education Committee of the
34 Mississippi Senate, to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

35 (f) The Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the
36 Mississippi Senate;

37 (g) The State Superintendent of Education, or his
38 designee;

39 (h) Two (2) superintendents of education, to be
40 appointed by the State Board of Education, one (1) to be a
41 superintendent of a county public school district in this state
42 and one (1) to be a superintendent of a municipal public school
43 district in this state; and

44 (i) Two (2) parents of children enrolled in public
45 schools in this state, to be appointed by the Governor.

46 (3) Appointments made in 2005 shall continue to serve on the
47 commission and any unfilled appointments shall be made within
48 thirty (30) days after the effective date of this act, and the
49 commission shall meet and organize * * * on a day to be designated
50 jointly by the Speaker of the House and the Lieutenant Governor
51 prior to July 1, 2006. All subsequent meetings of the commission
52 shall be called on a day to be designated by the commission. At
53 its first meeting, the commission shall elect a chairman and vice
54 chairman from its membership, and shall adopt rules for
55 transacting its business and keeping records. All meetings of the
56 commission shall be open to the public and shall provide an
57 opportunity for any interested citizen to be heard and to
58 participate. Notice of the time, date and place of any meeting of
59 the commission shall be announced and made available to the news
60 media at least seven (7) days before the meeting.

61 (4) All agencies, departments, divisions, boards, bureaus,
62 commissions or institutions of the state, or of any political
63 subdivision thereof, at the request of the chairman of the
64 commission, shall provide to the commission such facilities,
65 assistance and data as will enable the commission to properly
66 carry out its duties.

67 (5) Members of the commission may not be compensated for the
68 performance of their duties.

69 (6) The commission shall complete and submit a report of its
70 work and recommendations to the Legislature and to the Governor on
71 or before December 1, 2006. After the presentation of its report
72 to the Legislature and the Governor, the commission shall be
73 dissolved.

74 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
75 and after its passage.