

By: Senator(s) Chaney

To: Education; Public Health  
and Welfare

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2700

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS,  
2 CHARTER SCHOOLS AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE PARENTS WITH  
3 APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ABOUT MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE; TO DIRECT THE  
4 STATE BOARD OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ABOUT  
5 THIS DISEASE TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
6 EDUCATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) Local school boards shall ensure that all  
9 public schools and agricultural high schools provide parents and  
10 guardians with information about meningococcal disease and the  
11 effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease. Such  
12 information may be provided through the school district Web site,  
13 student handbook or other appropriate means of dissemination of  
14 information. Such information shall be updated annually if new  
15 information on such disease is available. This information shall  
16 include the causes, symptoms and means by which meningococcal  
17 disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may  
18 obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children.  
19 Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a local  
20 school board or school to provide or purchase vaccine against  
21 meningococcal disease.

22 (2) Nonpublic schools shall provide parents and guardians  
23 with information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness  
24 of vaccination against meningococcal disease. Such information  
25 may be provided through the school district Web site, student  
26 handbook or other appropriate means of dissemination of  
27 information. Such information shall be updated annually if new  
28 information on such disease is available. This information shall  
29 include the causes, symptoms and the means by which meningococcal

30 disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may  
31 obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children.  
32 Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a nonpublic  
33 school to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal  
34 disease.

35 (3) The governing body of a public charter school shall  
36 ensure that the public charter school provides parents and  
37 guardians with information about meningococcal disease. Such  
38 information may be provided through the school district Web site,  
39 student handbook or other appropriate means of dissemination of  
40 information. Such information shall be updated annually if new  
41 information on such disease is available. This information shall  
42 include the causes, symptoms and the means by which meningococcal  
43 disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may  
44 obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children.  
45 Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public  
46 charter school or its governing body to provide or purchase  
47 vaccine against meningococcal disease.

48 (4) The State Board of Health shall develop and make  
49 available to the Department of Education educational materials  
50 appropriate for distribution so that the information required by  
51 this section can be provided to parents and guardians. The  
52 Department of Education may provide this information, at its  
53 discretion, electronically, on its Web site. Nothing in this  
54 section shall be construed to require the Department of Education  
55 to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

56 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
57 and after July 1, 2006.