

By: Representative Aldridge

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1407

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ALLOW STUDENTS
2 WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME TO PARTICIPATE IN CERTAIN ELECTIVE COURSES;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The school board of a school district shall
6 permit any student having Down's syndrome who is enrolled in a
7 school within the district to participate in elective courses,
8 subject to the conditions prescribed in this section. Upon the
9 request of a student having Down's syndrome or the student's
10 parent, guardian or legal custodian, the school in which the
11 student is enrolled shall enroll the student in any elective
12 course available at that school which does not require selection
13 through an audition or other competitive application process and
14 which does not require the student's participation in off-campus
15 activities. If enrollment in an elective course is conditioned on
16 a student having satisfied certain requirements, such as
17 completion of a prerequisite course or a certain number of core
18 curriculum units, the student must satisfy all conditions that are
19 applicable to regular education students. A student with Down's
20 syndrome who is enrolled in a general education elective course is
21 entitled to full participation in the lessons and activities that
22 comprise the course in the same manner as all other students in
23 the class.

24 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
25 and after July 1, 2007.