

By: Senator(s) Simmons

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2557

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-11-54, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PRESCRIBE AUTHORIZED CURRICULA AND MATERIALS FOR SCHOOL
3 DISTRICT CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEER MEDIATION PROGRAMS, AND TO
4 DELETE THE AUTOMATIC REPEALER ON THE AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS
5 TO OFFER SAID PROGRAMS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-11-54, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-11-54. The State Board of Education, using only existing
10 staff and resources, shall develop a list of recommended conflict
11 resolution and mediation materials, models and curricula that are
12 developed from evidence-based practices and positive behavioral
13 intervention supports to address responsible decision making, the
14 causes and effects of school violence and harassment, cultural
15 diversity and nonviolent methods for resolving conflict, including
16 peer mediation, and shall make the list available to local school
17 administrative units and school buildings before the beginning of
18 the 2007-2008 school year. In addition, local school boards will
19 incorporate these effective conflict resolution and peer mediation
20 materials, models and curricula developed from evidence-based
21 practices and positive behavioral intervention supports into
22 individual school district policies and Codes of Conduct.
23 However, no monies from the Temporary Assistance for Needy
24 Families grant may be used for developing this list. In
25 developing this list, the board shall emphasize materials, models
26 and curricula that currently are being used in Mississippi and
27 which the board determines to be effective. The board shall
28 include at least one (1) model that includes instruction and

29 guidance for the voluntary implementation of peer mediation
30 programs and one (1) model that provides instruction and guidance
31 for teachers concerning the integration of conflict resolution and
32 mediation lessons into the existing classroom curriculum.

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