

By: Senator(s) Carmichael

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2371

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATE LONGITUDINAL  
2 DATA SYSTEM (SLDS) TO ESTABLISH A MULTIAGENCY DATABASE TO TRACK  
3 EDUCATION AND STUDENT OUTCOMES IN THE WORKFORCE; TO PROVIDE FOR  
4 INTERAGENCY COOPERATION WITH THE SLDS; TO PROVIDE FOR A SLDS  
5 GOVERNING BOARD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1. State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS);**

8 **establishment.** (1) To improve quality of life, education and  
9 employment opportunities for all citizens, the appropriate  
10 agencies of the State of Mississippi listed in subsection (2) of  
11 this section shall develop and maintain a State Longitudinal Data  
12 System (SLDS). The system will allow stakeholders and  
13 policymakers access data on state residents from birth to the  
14 workforce to drive accountability and investment decisions. The  
15 system will include data from multiple state agencies and  
16 entities. The system will provide decision makers a tool to  
17 develop policies to support objectives, including, but not limited  
18 to:

19 (a) Enabling Mississippians to secure and retain  
20 employment and receive better pay after completing training or  
21 postsecondary degrees;

22 (b) Enabling Mississippi to meet the education and job  
23 skill demands of business and industry;

24 (c) Developing an early warning system, which allows  
25 the state to intervene early, improving the graduation rates in  
26 high school and college;

27 (d) Identifying teachers, teaching methods and programs  
28 that lead to positive student outcomes; and



29 (e) Encouraging the sharing of electronic data across  
30 educational and other entities.

31 (2) Individual state agencies and state entities will send  
32 data from their internal system to the Statewide Longitudinal Data  
33 System. These initial agencies and entities shall provide data to  
34 the SLDS under the provisions developed by the SLDS Governing  
35 Board established in Section 2 of this act:

36 (a) Mississippi Department of Education (MDE);

37 (b) State Board for Community and Junior Colleges  
38 (SBCJC);

39 (c) Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher  
40 Learning (IHL);

41 (d) State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB);

42 (e) Mississippi Department of Employment Security  
43 (MDES);

44 (f) Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS);

45 and

46 (g) State Early Childhood Advisory Council (SECAC).

47 Any agencies or entities added to SLDS shall provide a  
48 representative to the SLDS Governing Board and be governed in the  
49 same manner as the initial agencies and entities.

50 (3) The system will be based on an existing system currently  
51 housed, developed and maintained by the National Strategic  
52 Planning and Analysis Research Center (nSPARC) at Mississippi  
53 State University. The initial agencies participating in the SLDS  
54 Governing Board and nSPARC have worked collaboratively to secure  
55 funding through the United States Department of Education to  
56 expand and enhance the capacity of the state's existing technology  
57 infrastructure for the purposes of developing the SLDS. The State  
58 Data Center, operated by the Mississippi Department of Information  
59 Technology Services (ITS), will provide application hosting  
60 services for the SLDS until such time the SLDS Governing Board  
61 approves that another entity should perform these services.



62           **SECTION 2. Governance.** (1) The SLDS will be governed by a  
63 SLDS Governing Board (the board), which shall be composed of a  
64 representative from each agency or entity providing data to the  
65 system. Each agency or entity will appoint their representative  
66 to sit on the Governing Board. For the two (2) years following  
67 the implementation of this act, the State Workforce Investment  
68 Board Chair will also serve as Chair of the SLDS Governing Board.  
69 In subsequent years, the SLDS Governing Board will elect a chair  
70 from among its members. The Chair of the SLDS Governing Board  
71 will serve a two-year term.

72           (2) The SLDS Governing Board shall develop and promulgate  
73 all rules and regulations governing the activities of the SLDS in  
74 accordance with applicable state and federal laws. The board is  
75 authorized to contract with a third party to manage and maintain  
76 the system and to insure the policies and procedures developed by  
77 the board are enforced.

78           (3) The SLDS Governing Board shall be responsible for, but  
79 not limited to, the following objectives:

80                   (a) Identifying critical research and policy questions  
81 that need to be addressed by education (P-20) and workforce  
82 programs;

83                   (b) Identifying reports and other information that  
84 should be available to education and workforce entities and other  
85 public stakeholders;

86                   (c) Developing a funding mechanism for sustaining the  
87 system after it is developed;

88                   (d) Defining and maintaining standards for privacy,  
89 confidentiality and security of data; and

90                   (e) Performing other advisory functions that are  
91 necessary for the successful continuation and management of the  
92 longitudinal data system.



93           (4) Nothing in this act shall prevent an individual agency  
94 or entity from maintaining control of their agency's individual  
95 data.

96           (5) All data provided to the SLDS shall be provided in  
97 accordance with all local, state and federal laws governing the  
98 protection and sharing of such data.

99           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
100 and after July 1, 2013.

