

By: Representatives Brown (20th), Arnold,
Boyd, Carpenter, Formby, Martinson, Monsour

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 496

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF PARENTS TO
2 DIRECT THE UPBRINGING, EDUCATION AND CARE OF THEIR CHILDREN; AND
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) The liberty of parents to direct the
6 upbringing, education and care of their children is a fundamental
7 right.

8 (2) Neither the State of Mississippi nor any agency thereof
9 shall infringe upon this right without demonstrating that its
10 governmental interest as applied to the person is of the highest
11 order and not otherwise served.

12 **SECTION 2.** The provisions of this act apply to all laws of
13 the State of Mississippi, and to the implementation of such laws,
14 whether adopted before or after the effective date of this act,
15 unless a law explicitly excludes such application.

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

