

By: Representative Formby

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 258

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN  
 2 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS;  
 3 TO REQUIRE THOSE STUDENTS TO ADHERE TO THE SAME RULES AND  
 4 REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR  
 5 ACTIVITIES BY STUDENTS IN THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO PROHIBIT A  
 6 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD FROM IMPOSING ANY REQUIREMENT UPON A HOME  
 7 SCHOOLED STUDENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY  
 8 WHICH IS NOT IMPOSED UPON FULL-TIME STUDENTS OF THE LOCAL PUBLIC  
 9 SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO  
 10 PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY  
 11 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS PERMITTING THE PARTICIPATION OF HOME SCHOOLED  
 12 STUDENTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 **SECTION 1.** (1) A student who is being educated in a  
 15 legitimate home instruction program, as defined under the  
 16 Mississippi Compulsory School Attendance Law (Section 37-13-91),  
 17 may participate in any extracurricular activities available to  
 18 students in the home schooled student's grade in the local school  
 19 of the school district where that student resides. Upon the  
 20 request of the home schooled student's parent, guardian or legal  
 21 custodian, the local school board shall register the student in a  
 22 public school for purposes of participating in an extracurricular  
 23 activity or activities. The home schooled student must reside



24 within the attendance boundaries of the school in which the  
25 student is seeking registration and must submit the request for  
26 registration before the deadline established by the local district  
27 for participation in the extracurricular activity in the following  
28 school year. As used in this section, the term "extracurricular"  
29 means any school-authorized or education-related activity  
30 occurring during or outside the regular instructional school day  
31 including, but not limited to, academic teams, athletics, art,  
32 band, choir, honor societies, music and theatre.

33 (2) A home schooled student participating in any  
34 extracurricular activity and his or her parents must adhere to the  
35 same rules and regulations adopted by the local school board  
36 governing participation in that activity by students in the local  
37 school. Each local school board shall adopt a policy governing  
38 home schooled student participation in extracurricular activities,  
39 which policy must conform to any rules and regulations adopted by  
40 the State Board of Education under subsection (3) of this section.  
41 However, a local school board may not impose any requirements on a  
42 home schooled student auditioning for or participating in  
43 extracurricular activities which are not imposed on full-time  
44 students of the local public school district. When selection to  
45 participate in an extracurricular activity at a local public  
46 school is made on a competitive basis, a home schooled student is  
47 eligible to try out for and participate in the activity as  
48 authorized under this section.



49           (3) The State Board of Education may promulgate any rules  
50 and regulations as it may deem necessary to promote consistency of  
51 policies implemented by local school boards throughout the state  
52 permitting home schooled students to participate in  
53 extracurricular activities as provided under subsections (1) and  
54 (2) of this section.

55           (4) This section may not be construed to require any home  
56 schooled student to register with a school district for  
57 extracurricular activity purposes.

58           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
59 and after July 1, 2014.

