

By: Senator(s) Fillingane

To: Judiciary, Division A

SENATE BILL NO. 2199

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) The parental right to direct education includes the
9 right to choose public, private, religious, or home schools, and
10 the right to make reasonable choices within public schools for
11 one's child.

12 (3) Neither the State of Mississippi nor any agency thereof
13 shall infringe upon this right without demonstrating that its
14 governmental interest as applied to the person is of the highest
15 order and not otherwise served.

16 (4) This act shall not be construed to apply to a parental
17 action or decision that would end life.



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

22 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
23 and after July 1, 2014.

