MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Senator(s) Fillingane, Jackson (15th) To: Education

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 2329

1 AN ACT ENTITLED THE "TIM TEBOW ACT"; TO AUTHORIZE 2 INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS 3 ENROLLED IN HOMESCHOOLS; TO DEFINE "HOMESCHOOL" AND 4 "INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY"; TO IDENTIFY THE 5 CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A HOMESCHOOL MAY 6 PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES; TO 7 PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HOMESCHOOL STUDENT SELECTION OR PARTICIPATION IN SUCH ACTIVITIES; TO SPECIFY WAITING PERIOD FOR 8 9 PARTICIPATION WHEN A STUDENT TRANSFERS FROM A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO A HOMESCHOOL; TO PROVIDE THAT PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR 10 11 ACTIVITY IS A PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 13 SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section unless the context requires otherwise: 14 (a) "Homeschool" means a nonpublic school in which one 15 or more children of not more than two (2) families or households 16 17 receive full-time supervised academic instruction from a parent, 18 legal guardian, or member of either household.

19 (b) "Interscholastic extracurricular activity" means 20 participation in a school-authorized band or sports team practice 21 or competition.

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22 (2)A student enrolled in a homeschool is eligible to (a) 23 participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities sponsored by or engaged in by the public school to which the 24 student would be assigned according to district school board 25 26 attendance policies or which the student could choose to attend 27 pursuant to district open enrollment provisions. A student eligible under this section who is selected to participate in 28 extracurricular activities shall: 29

30 (i) Pay any participation or activity fee in an
31 amount equal to the fee charged to public school participants;
32 (ii) Adhere to the same standards of behavior,
33 responsibility, performance, and code of conduct as any other

34 participants in the extracurricular activity;

(iii) Adhere to the same academic achievements on
grade level as other participants, as determined by grade level
testing administered by a school psychometrist or his designee;

38 (iv) Register with the school his or her intent to 39 participate in extracurricular activity as a representative of the 40 school before the beginning date of the semester for the activity 41 in which he or she wishes to participate; and

42 (v) Comply with the same physical examination,
43 immunization, insurance, age and semester eligibility requirements
44 as other students participating in the activity.

45 (b) A student who transfers from a public school to a46 homeschool shall not participate on interscholastic

S. B. No. 2329 **~ OFFICIAL ~** 15/SS02/R592CS PAGE 2 47 extracurricular teams until twelve (12) months after the date of 48 transfer.

(c) Transportation of the student to the public school to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities is the responsibility of the parent, guardian or student. The student may use the same transportation as other students as long as additional expenses are not incurred by the district.

(d) A public school shall not discriminate against a
student eligible under this section in the selection of
interscholastic extracurricular team members.

(e) A public school team or group shall not be impeded
from competing against any other public school team or group
solely because the public school team or group includes students
eligible under this section.

61 (3) Participation in an interscholastic extracurricular 62 activity is a privilege and not a right. Nothing in this act 63 shall be interpreted to create a cause of action on behalf of a 64 student against a public school or public school district official 65 or against an interscholastic extracurricular activities 66 association.

67 (4) This section may be cited as the "Tim Tebow Act."
68 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
69 and after July 1, 2015.

S. B. No. 2329 15/SS02/R592CS PAGE 3 Tim Tebow Act; authorize interscholastic extracurricular activity participation of students enrolled in homeschools.