

By: Representatives White, Crawford,
Bennett, Dixon

To: Education

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 478

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1, CHAPTER 430, LAWS OF 2015, TO
2 EXTEND BY THREE YEARS THE REPEALER OF THE PROVISION OF LAW
3 CREATING THE TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF GIFTED EDUCATION IN
4 MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 1, Chapter 430, Laws of 2015, is amended
7 as follows:

8 Section 1. (1) There is created the Task Force on the
9 Future of Gifted Education in Mississippi, which shall be tasked
10 with the following objectives and responsibilities:

11 (a) To cultivate and retain academic talent in all
12 levels of public education through Grade 12;

13 (b) To examine the existing infrastructure of
14 Mississippi's gifted education opportunities and make
15 recommendations with regard to improving access to students who
16 demonstrate exemplary academic, creative or intellectual talent;

17 (c) To assess diverse education offerings in other
18 states and determine best practices to be implemented in the State
19 of Mississippi;



20 (d) To project costs and returns on investment, both
21 short-term and long-term, of offering gifted education at all
22 public school grade levels through Grade 12;

23 (e) To recommend how the state can advance its
24 curriculum offerings with a child's individual progress;

25 (f) To explore adding coding to curriculums throughout
26 the state; and

27 (g) Issue its recommendation to the State Board of
28 Education, the Governor and the appropriate committees of the
29 Legislature not later than January 1, 2016.

30 (2) The task force shall be composed of sixteen (16) members
31 as follows:

32 (a) The Chairman of the House Education Committee, or
33 his designee;

34 (b) The Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, or
35 his designee;

36 (c) Two (2) Representatives appointed by the Speaker;

37 (d) Two (2) Senators appointed by the Lieutenant
38 Governor;

39 (e) One (1) representative of the Mississippi School
40 for Math and Science;

41 (f) One (1) representative of the Karnes Center for
42 Gifted Studies;

43 (g) One (1) nonlegislative member appointed by the
44 Speaker, who must be a current or former gifted education teacher;



45 (h) One (1) nonlegislative member appointed by the
46 Lieutenant Governor, who must be a former gifted education
47 student;

48 (i) One (1) nonlegislative member appointed by the
49 Governor, who must be a parent of a current or former gifted
50 education student;

51 (j) One (1) representative of the State Department of
52 Education, appointed by the State Superintendent of Public
53 Education;

54 (k) One (1) representative of the Mississippi Economic
55 Council;

56 (l) One (1) representative of the Mississippi Brain
57 Drain Task Force;

58 (m) One (1) representative of the State Workforce
59 Investment Board; and

60 (n) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
61 Association for Gifted Children, or his or her designee.

62 (3) Members of the task force shall be appointed by the
63 appointing authority prescribed in subsection (2) of this section
64 within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act. The
65 task force shall hold its first meeting no later than September 1,
66 2015, upon the call of the Chairmen of the House and Senate
67 Education Committees, who shall serve as co-chairman. Members
68 shall serve without state funded compensation for the performance
69 of their duties as members of the task force. However,



70 nonlegislative members of the task force may be compensated from
71 any private source of funding provided for the purpose of
72 assisting the task force in accomplishing its objectives.

73 (4) The task force shall meet upon the call of the chairman.
74 A quorum of the task force shall be nine (9) members. Any vacancy
75 on the task force shall be filled by the appointing authority.

76 (5) Upon the request of the task force, all state
77 departments and agencies and local governments and their
78 subdivisions shall furnish the task force with any information in
79 their possession or available to them.

80 (6) This section shall stand repealed on June 30, * * *
81 2018.

82 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after its passage.

