To: Education

~ OFFICIAL ~

G1/2

By: Representative Miles

HOUSE BILL NO. 527

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT A 2 FINANCIAL LITERACY CURRICULUM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON OR BEFORE THE 3 2018-2019 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR; TO PROVIDE THAT THE COURSE IN 4 FINANCIAL LITERACY SHALL ACCOUNT FOR A ONE-HALF CARNEGIE UNIT; TO 5 REQUIRE SUCCESSFUL PASSAGE OF THE COURSE AS A GRADUATION 6 REQUIREMENT; TO ESTABLISH THE "FINANCIAL LITERACY TRUST FUND" AS A SPECIAL FUND IN THE STATE TREASURY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDS 7 ADMINISTRATION; TO AMEND SECTION 37-7-301, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 8 9 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE PRECEDING PROVISIONS; AND FOR RELATED 10 PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 11 12 SECTION 1. (1) The State Board of Education shall implement 13 a financial literacy curriculum on or before the 2018-2019 academic school year. This section is applicable to all schools, 14 15 including but not limited to, public charter schools. 16 There is established in the State Treasury a special 17 fund to be known as the "Financial Literacy Trust Fund" to provide financial literacy education for this program. The fund shall be 18 administered by the State Board of Education, shall be eliqible to 19 20 accept private contributions, publicly or privately funded grants, and funds appropriated by the state or federal government. No 21 22 expenditure from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficiency

H. B. No. 527

17/HR26/R167 PAGE 1 (DJ\KW)

- 23 at the close of the fiscal year. Unexpended monies remaining in
- 24 the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse to the
- 25 General Fund, but shall be available for expenditure in the
- 26 subsequent fiscal year. The fund shall be an expendable trust
- 27 fund and shall not be subject to appropriation or allotment.
- 28 (3) The State Board of Education shall develop rules and
- 29 regulations for the implementation of the trust. The trust may
- 30 expend funds to administer the fund, which shall include an annual
- 31 independent audit of the financial activities of the fund. The
- 32 trust may also enter into contracts with private corporations to
- 33 manage and implement the programmatic, fiduciary or administrative
- 34 goals of the trust subject to the approval of the board. The
- 35 trust may also, to the extent necessary, create a 501(c)(3)
- 36 corporation to fulfill the purposes of the trust. The board shall
- 37 annually report to the Legislature all programmatic and financial
- 38 activities and balances of the fund on or before December 31 of
- 39 each year.
- 40 **SECTION 2.** Department of Banking and Consumer Finance shall
- 41 have the authority to contribute portion of funds generated from
- 42 penalties and fees to financial literacy education.
- 43 **SECTION 3.** Section 37-7-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 44 amended as follows:
- 45 37-7-301. The school boards of all school districts shall
- 46 have the following powers, authority and duties in addition to all
- 47 others imposed or granted by law, to wit:

- 48 (a) To organize and operate the schools of the district
- 49 and to make such division between the high school grades and
- 50 elementary grades as, in their judgment, will serve the best
- 51 interests of the school;
- 52 (b) To introduce public school music, art, manual
- 53 training and other special subjects into either the elementary or
- 54 high school grades, as the board shall deem proper;
- 55 (c) To be the custodians of real and personal school
- 56 property and to manage, control and care for same, both during the
- 57 school term and during vacation;
- 58 (d) To have responsibility for the erection, repairing
- 59 and equipping of school facilities and the making of necessary
- 60 school improvements;
- (e) To suspend or to expel a pupil or to change the
- 62 placement of a pupil to the school district's alternative school
- 63 or homebound program for misconduct in the school or on school
- 64 property, as defined in Section 37-11-29, on the road to and from
- 65 school, or at any school-related activity or event, or for conduct
- occurring on property other than school property or other than at
- 67 a school-related activity or event when such conduct by a pupil,
- 68 in the determination of the school superintendent or principal,
- 69 renders that pupil's presence in the classroom a disruption to the
- 70 educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best
- 71 interest and welfare of the pupils and teacher of such class as a

72	whole,	and	to	delegate	such	authority	to	the	appropriate	officials

- 73 of the school district;
- 74 (f) To visit schools in the district, in their
- 75 discretion, in a body for the purpose of determining what can be
- 76 done for the improvement of the school in a general way;
- 77 (g) To support, within reasonable limits, the
- 78 superintendent, principal and teachers where necessary for the
- 79 proper discipline of the school;
- 80 (h) To exclude from the schools students with what
- 81 appears to be infectious or contagious diseases; provided,
- 82 however, such student may be allowed to return to school upon
- 83 presenting a certificate from a public health officer, duly
- 84 licensed physician or nurse practitioner that the student is free
- 85 from such disease;
- 86 (i) To require those vaccinations specified by the
- 87 State Health Officer as provided in Section 41-23-37;
- 88 (j) To see that all necessary utilities and services
- 89 are provided in the schools at all times when same are needed;
- 90 (k) To authorize the use of the school buildings and
- 91 grounds for the holding of public meetings and gatherings of the
- 92 people under such regulations as may be prescribed by said board;
- 93 (1) To prescribe and enforce rules and regulations not
- 94 inconsistent with law or with the regulations of the State Board
- 95 of Education for their own government and for the government of

96	the	schools,	and	to	transact	their	business	at	regular	and	special
----	-----	----------	-----	----	----------	-------	----------	----	---------	-----	---------

- 97 meetings called and held in the manner provided by law;
- 98 (m) To maintain and operate all of the schools under
- 99 their control for such length of time during the year as may be
- 100 required;
- 101 (n) To enforce in the schools the courses of study and
- 102 the use of the textbooks prescribed by the proper authorities;
- 103 (o) To make orders directed to the superintendent of
- 104 schools for the issuance of pay certificates for lawful purposes
- 105 on any available funds of the district and to have full control of
- 106 the receipt, distribution, allotment and disbursement of all funds
- 107 provided for the support and operation of the schools of such
- 108 school district whether such funds be derived from state
- 109 appropriations, local ad valorem tax collections, or otherwise.
- 110 The local school board shall be authorized and empowered to
- 111 promulgate rules and regulations that specify the types of claims
- 112 and set limits of the dollar amount for payment of claims by the
- 113 superintendent of schools to be ratified by the board at the next
- 114 regularly scheduled meeting after payment has been made;
- 115 (p) To select all school district personnel in the
- 116 manner provided by law, and to provide for such employee fringe
- 117 benefit programs, including accident reimbursement plans, as may
- 118 be deemed necessary and appropriate by the board;

119		(q)	То	provide	athle	etic	programs	and d	other	schoo	ol	
120	activities	and	to	regulate	the	esta	ablishment	and	opera	ation	of	such
121	programs a	nd ac	ctiv	vities;								

- 122 (r) To join, in their discretion, any association of 123 school boards and other public school-related organizations, and 124 to pay from local funds other than minimum foundation funds, any 125 membership dues;
- 126 To expend local school activity funds, or other 127 available school district funds, other than minimum education program funds, for the purposes prescribed under this paragraph. 128 "Activity funds" shall mean all funds received by school officials 129 130 in all school districts paid or collected to participate in any 131 school activity, such activity being part of the school program 132 and partially financed with public funds or supplemented by public 133 The term "activity funds" shall not include any funds 134 raised and/or expended by any organization unless commingled in a 135 bank account with existing activity funds, regardless of whether the funds were raised by school employees or received by school 136 137 employees during school hours or using school facilities, and 138 regardless of whether a school employee exercises influence over 139 the expenditure or disposition of such funds. Organizations shall 140 not be required to make any payment to any school for the use of any school facility if, in the discretion of the local school 141 governing board, the organization's function shall be deemed to be 142 beneficial to the official or extracurricular programs of the 143

144	school. For the purposes of this provision, the term
145	"organization" shall not include any organization subject to the
146	control of the local school governing board. Activity funds may
147	only be expended for any necessary expenses or travel costs,
148	including advances, incurred by students and their chaperons in
149	attending any in-state or out-of-state school-related programs,
150	conventions or seminars and/or any commodities, equipment, travel
151	expenses, purchased services or school supplies which the local
152	school governing board, in its discretion, shall deem beneficial
153	to the official or extracurricular programs of the district,
154	including items which may subsequently become the personal
155	property of individuals, including yearbooks, athletic apparel,
156	book covers and trophies. Activity funds may be used to pay
157	travel expenses of school district personnel. The local school
158	governing board shall be authorized and empowered to promulgate
159	rules and regulations specifically designating for what purposes
160	school activity funds may be expended. The local school governing
161	board shall provide (i) that such school activity funds shall be
162	maintained and expended by the principal of the school generating
163	the funds in individual bank accounts, or (ii) that such school
164	activity funds shall be maintained and expended by the
165	superintendent of schools in a central depository approved by the
166	board. The local school governing board shall provide that such
167	school activity funds be audited as part of the annual audit
168	required in Section 37-9-18. The State Department of Education

169	shall	prescribe	а	uniform	system	of	accounting	and	financial

- 170 reporting for all school activity fund transactions;
- 171 (t) To enter into an energy performance contract,
- 172 energy services contract, on a shared-savings, lease or
- 173 lease-purchase basis, for energy efficiency services and/or
- 174 equipment as provided for in Section 31-7-14;
- 175 (u) To maintain accounts and issue pay certificates on
- 176 school food service bank accounts;
- (v) (i) To lease a school building from an individual,
- 178 partnership, nonprofit corporation or a private for-profit
- 179 corporation for the use of such school district, and to expend
- 180 funds therefor as may be available from any nonminimum program
- 181 sources. The school board of the school district desiring to
- 182 lease a school building shall declare by resolution that a need
- 183 exists for a school building and that the school district cannot
- 184 provide the necessary funds to pay the cost or its proportionate
- 185 share of the cost of a school building required to meet the
- 186 present needs. The resolution so adopted by the school board
- 187 shall be published once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks
- 188 in a newspaper having a general circulation in the school district
- 189 involved, with the first publication thereof to be made not less
- 190 than thirty (30) days prior to the date upon which the school
- 191 board is to act on the question of leasing a school building. If
- 192 no petition requesting an election is filed prior to such meeting
- 193 as hereinafter provided, then the school board may, by resolution

194	spread upon its minutes, proceed to lease a school building. If
195	at any time prior to said meeting a petition signed by not less
196	than twenty percent (20%) or fifteen hundred (1500), whichever is
197	less, of the qualified electors of the school district involved
198	shall be filed with the school board requesting that an election
199	be called on the question, then the school board shall, not later
200	than the next regular meeting, adopt a resolution calling an
201	election to be held within such school district upon the question
202	of authorizing the school board to lease a school building. Such
203	election shall be called and held, and notice thereof shall be
204	given, in the same manner for elections upon the questions of the
205	issuance of the bonds of school districts, and the results thereof
206	shall be certified to the school board. If at least three-fifths
207	(3/5) of the qualified electors of the school district who voted
208	in such election shall vote in favor of the leasing of a school
209	building, then the school board shall proceed to lease a school
210	building. The term of the lease contract shall not exceed twenty
211	(20) years, and the total cost of such lease shall be either the
212	amount of the lowest and best bid accepted by the school board
213	after advertisement for bids or an amount not to exceed the
214	current fair market value of the lease as determined by the
215	averaging of at least two (2) appraisals by certified general
216	appraisers licensed by the State of Mississippi. The term "school
217	building" as used in this paragraph (v)(i) shall be construed to
218	mean any building or buildings used for classroom purposes in

219	connection with the operation of schools and shall include the
220	site therefor, necessary support facilities, and the equipment
221	thereof and appurtenances thereto such as heating facilities,
222	water supply, sewage disposal, landscaping, walks, drives and
223	playgrounds. The term "lease" as used in this paragraph (v)(i)
224	may include a lease-purchase contract;
225	(ii) If two (2) or more school districts propose
226	to enter into a lease contract jointly, then joint meetings of the
227	school boards having control may be held but no action taken shall
228	be binding on any such school district unless the question of
229	leasing a school building is approved in each participating school
230	district under the procedure hereinabove set forth in paragraph
231	(v)(i). All of the provisions of paragraph (v)(i) regarding the
232	term and amount of the lease contract shall apply to the school
233	boards of school districts acting jointly. Any lease contract
234	executed by two (2) or more school districts as joint lessees
235	shall set out the amount of the aggregate lease rental to be paid
236	by each, which may be agreed upon, but there shall be no right of
237	occupancy by any lessee unless the aggregate rental is paid as
238	stipulated in the lease contract. All rights of joint lessees
239	under the lease contract shall be in proportion to the amount of
240	lease rental paid by each;
241	(w) To employ all noninstructional and noncertificated

employees and fix the duties and compensation of such personnel

242

243	deemed	necessary	pursuant	to	the	recommendation	of	the
-----	--------	-----------	----------	----	-----	----------------	----	-----

- 244 superintendent of schools;
- 245 (x) To employ and fix the duties and compensation of
- 246 such legal counsel as deemed necessary;
- 247 (y) Subject to rules and regulations of the State Board
- 248 of Education, to purchase, own and operate trucks, vans and other
- 249 motor vehicles, which shall bear the proper identification
- 250 required by law;
- 251 (z) To expend funds for the payment of substitute
- 252 teachers and to adopt reasonable regulations for the employment
- 253 and compensation of such substitute teachers;
- 254 (aa) To acquire in its own name by purchase all real
- 255 property which shall be necessary and desirable in connection with
- 256 the construction, renovation or improvement of any public school
- 257 building or structure. Whenever the purchase price for such real
- 258 property is greater than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), the
- 259 school board shall not purchase the property for an amount
- 260 exceeding the fair market value of such property as determined by
- 261 the average of at least two (2) independent appraisals by
- 262 certified general appraisers licensed by the State of Mississippi.
- 263 If the board shall be unable to agree with the owner of any such
- 264 real property in connection with any such project, the board shall
- 265 have the power and authority to acquire any such real property by
- 266 condemnation proceedings pursuant to Section 11-27-1 et seq.,
- 267 Mississippi Code of 1972, and for such purpose, the right of

268 eminent domain is hereby conferred upon and vested in said board.

269 Provided further, that the local school board is authorized to

270 grant an easement for ingress and egress over sixteenth section

271 land or lieu land in exchange for a similar easement upon

272 adjoining land where the exchange of easements affords substantial

273 benefit to the sixteenth section land; provided, however, the

274 exchange must be based upon values as determined by a competent

275 appraiser, with any differential in value to be adjusted by cash

276 payment. Any easement rights granted over sixteenth section land

277 under such authority shall terminate when the easement ceases to

278 be used for its stated purpose. No sixteenth section or lieu land

279 which is subject to an existing lease shall be burdened by any

280 such easement except by consent of the lessee or unless the school

281 district shall acquire the unexpired leasehold interest affected

282 by the easement;

283 (bb) To charge reasonable fees related to the

educational programs of the district, in the manner prescribed in

285 Section 37-7-335;

286 (cc) Subject to rules and regulations of the State

287 Board of Education, to purchase relocatable classrooms for the use

288 of such school district, in the manner prescribed in Section

289 37-1-13;

284

290 (dd) Enter into contracts or agreements with other

291 school districts, political subdivisions or governmental entities

292 to carry out one or more of the powers or duties of the school

293	board,	or	to	allow	more	efficient	utilization	of	limited	resources

- 294 for providing services to the public;
- 295 (ee) To provide for in-service training for employees
- 296 of the district;
- 297 (ff) As part of their duties to prescribe the use of
- 298 textbooks, to provide that parents and legal guardians shall be
- 299 responsible for the textbooks and for the compensation to the
- 300 school district for any books which are not returned to the proper
- 301 schools upon the withdrawal of their dependent child. If a
- 302 textbook is lost or not returned by any student who drops out of
- 303 the public school district, the parent or legal guardian shall
- 304 also compensate the school district for the fair market value of
- 305 the textbooks;
- 306 (qq) To conduct fund-raising activities on behalf of
- 307 the school district that the local school board, in its
- 308 discretion, deems appropriate or beneficial to the official or
- 309 extracurricular programs of the district; provided that:
- 310 (i) Any proceeds of the fund-raising activities
- 311 shall be treated as "activity funds" and shall be accounted for as
- 312 are other activity funds under this section; and
- 313 (ii) Fund-raising activities conducted or
- 314 authorized by the board for the sale of school pictures, the
- 315 rental of caps and gowns or the sale of graduation invitations for
- 316 which the school board receives a commission, rebate or fee shall
- 317 contain a disclosure statement advising that a portion of the

318	proceeds	of	the	sales	or	rentals	shall	be	contributed	to	the
319	student	act:	ivity	y fund;	;						

- 320 (hh) To allow individual lessons for music, art and
 321 other curriculum-related activities for academic credit or
 322 nonacademic credit during school hours and using school equipment
 323 and facilities, subject to uniform rules and regulations adopted
 324 by the school board;
- 325 (ii) To charge reasonable fees for participating in an 326 extracurricular activity for academic or nonacademic credit for 327 necessary and required equipment such as safety equipment, band 328 instruments and uniforms;
- 329 (jj) To conduct or participate in any fund-raising 330 activities on behalf of or in connection with a tax-exempt 331 charitable organization;
- 332 (kk) To exercise such powers as may be reasonably 333 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section;
- 334 (11) To expend funds for the services of nonprofit arts 335 organizations or other such nonprofit organizations who provide 336 performances or other services for the students of the school 337 district;
- 338 (mm) To expend federal No Child Left Behind Act funds, 339 or any other available funds that are expressly designated and 340 authorized for that use, to pay training, educational expenses, 341 salary incentives and salary supplements to employees of local 342 school districts; except that incentives shall not be considered

343	part of the local supplement as defined in Section $37-151-5$ (o),
344	nor shall incentives be considered part of the local supplement
345	paid to an individual teacher for the purposes of Section
346	37-19-7(1). Mississippi Adequate Education Program funds or any
347	other state funds may not be used for salary incentives or salary
348	supplements as provided in this paragraph (mm);
349	(nn) To use any available funds, not appropriated or
350	designated for any other purpose, for reimbursement to the
351	state-licensed employees from both in state and out of state, who
352	enter into a contract for employment in a school district, for the
353	expense of moving when the employment necessitates the relocation
354	of the licensed employee to a different geographical area than
355	that in which the licensed employee resides before entering into
356	the contract. The reimbursement shall not exceed One Thousand
357	Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the documented actual expenses incurred in
358	the course of relocating, including the expense of any
359	professional moving company or persons employed to assist with the
360	move, rented moving vehicles or equipment, mileage in the amount
361	authorized for county and municipal employees under Section
362	25-3-41 if the licensed employee used his personal vehicle or
363	vehicles for the move, meals and such other expenses associated
364	with the relocation. No licensed employee may be reimbursed for
365	moving expenses under this section on more than one (1) occasion
366	by the same school district. Nothing in this section shall be
367	construed to require the actual residence to which the licensed

368	employee relocates to be within the boundaries of the school
369	district that has executed a contract for employment in order for
370	the licensed employee to be eligible for reimbursement for the
371	moving expenses. However, the licensed employee must relocate
372	within the boundaries of the State of Mississippi. Any individual
373	receiving relocation assistance through the Critical Teacher
374	Shortage Act as provided in Section 37-159-5 shall not be eligible
375	to receive additional relocation funds as authorized in this
376	paragraph;
377	(00) To use any available funds, not appropriated or
378	designated for any other purpose, to reimburse persons who
379	interview for employment as a licensed employee with the district
380	for the mileage and other actual expenses incurred in the course
381	of travel to and from the interview at the rate authorized for
382	county and municipal employees under Section 25-3-41;
383	(pp) Consistent with the report of the Task Force to
384	Conduct a Best Financial Management Practices Review, to improve
385	school district management and use of resources and identify cost
386	savings as established in Section 8 of Chapter 610, Laws of 2002,
387	local school boards are encouraged to conduct independent reviews
388	of the management and efficiency of schools and school districts.
389	Such management and efficiency reviews shall provide state and
390	local officials and the public with the following:
391	(i) An assessment of a school district's

governance and organizational structure;

392

393	(ii) An assessment of the school district's
394	financial and personnel management;
395	(iii) An assessment of revenue levels and sources;
396	(iv) An assessment of facilities utilization,
397	planning and maintenance;
398	(v) An assessment of food services, transportation
399	and safety/security systems;
400	(vi) An assessment of instructional and
401	administrative technology;
402	(vii) A review of the instructional management and
403	the efficiency and effectiveness of existing instructional
404	programs; and
405	(viii) Recommended methods for increasing
406	efficiency and effectiveness in providing educational services to
407	the public;
408	(qq) To enter into agreements with other local school
409	boards for the establishment of an educational service agency
410	(ESA) to provide for the cooperative needs of the region in which
411	the school district is located, as provided in Section 37-7-345;
412	(rr) To implement a financial literacy program for
413	students in Grades 9 , 10 , * * * 11 and 12 as each local school
414	board deems most appropriate. The board may review the national
415	programs and obtain free literature from various nationally
416	recognized programs. After review of the different programs, the
417	board * * * shall certify a program that is most appropriate for

418	the school districts' needs. * * * <u>Students</u> in Grade <u>9,</u> 10, * * *
419	11 or 12 * * * shall participate in the program to be implemented
420	in all schools. The financial literacy program shall include, but
421	is not limited to, instruction in the same areas of personal
422	business and finance as required under Section 37-1-3(2)(b). The
423	school board may coordinate with volunteer teachers from local
424	community organizations, including, but not limited to, the
425	following: United States Department of Agriculture Rural
426	Development, United States Department of Housing and Urban
427	Development, * * * bankers and other nonprofit organizations.
428	* * * The financial literacy program shall further include:
429	(i) Decision making;
430	(ii) Earning an income;
431	(iii) Saving and spending;
432	(iv) Use of credit; and
433	<pre>(v) Budgeting;</pre>
434	(ss) To collaborate with the State Board of Education,
435	Community Action Agencies or the Department of Human Services to
436	develop and implement a voluntary program to provide services for
437	a prekindergarten program that addresses the cognitive, social,
438	and emotional needs of four-year-old and three-year-old children.
439	The school board may utilize any source of available revenue to
440	fund the voluntary program. Effective with the 2013-2014 school
441	year, to implement voluntary prekindergarten programs under the

442	Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013 pursuant to state funds
443	awarded by the State Department of Education on a matching basis;
444	(tt) With respect to any lawful, written obligation of
445	a school district, including, but not limited to, leases
446	(excluding leases of sixteenth section public school trust land),
447	bonds, notes, or other agreement, to agree in writing with the
448	obligee that the Department of Revenue or any state agency,
449	department or commission created under state law may:
450	(i) Withhold all or any part (as agreed by the
451	school board) of any monies which such local school board is
452	entitled to receive from time to time under any law and which is
453	in the possession of the Department of Revenue, or any state
454	agency, department or commission created under state law; and
455	(ii) Pay the same over to any financial
456	institution, trustee or other obligee, as directed in writing by
457	the school board, to satisfy all or part of such obligation of the
458	school district.
459	The school board may make such written agreement to withhold
460	and transfer funds irrevocable for the term of the written
461	obligation and may include in the written agreement any other
462	terms and provisions acceptable to the school board. If the
463	school board files a copy of such written agreement with the
464	Department of Revenue, or any state agency, department or
465	commission created under state law then the Department of Revenue
466	or any state agency, department or commission created under state

law shall immediately make the withholdings provided in such agreement from the amounts due the local school board and shall continue to pay the same over to such financial institution, trustee or obligee for the term of the agreement.

471 This paragraph (tt) shall not grant any extra authority to a 472 school board to issue debt in any amount exceeding statutory 473 limitations on assessed value of taxable property within such 474 school district or the statutory limitations on debt maturities, 475 and shall not grant any extra authority to impose, levy or collect 476 a tax which is not otherwise expressly provided for, and shall not 477 be construed to apply to sixteenth section public school trust 478 land:

(uu) With respect to any matter or transaction that is competitively bid by a school district, to accept from any bidder as a good-faith deposit or bid bond or bid surety, the same type of good-faith deposit or bid bond or bid surety that may be accepted by the state or any other political subdivision on similar competitively bid matters or transactions. This paragraph (uu) shall not be construed to apply to sixteenth section public school trust land. The school board may authorize the investment of any school district funds in the same kind and manner of investments, including pooled investments, as any other political subdivision, including community hospitals;

490 (vv) To utilize the alternate method for the conveyance 491 or exchange of unused school buildings and/or land, reserving a

479

480

481

482

483

484

485

486

487

488

492	partial or other undivided interest in the property, as
493	specifically authorized and provided in Section 37-7-485;
494	(ww) To delegate, privatize or otherwise enter into a
495	contract with private entities for the operation of any and all
496	functions of nonacademic school process, procedures and operations
497	including, but not limited to, cafeteria workers, janitorial
498	services, transportation, professional development, achievement
499	and instructional consulting services materials and products,
500	purchasing cooperatives, insurance, business manager services,
501	auditing and accounting services, school safety/risk prevention,
502	data processing and student records, and other staff services;
503	however, the authority under this paragraph does not apply to the
504	leasing, management or operation of sixteenth section lands.
505	Local school districts, working through their regional education
506	service agency, are encouraged to enter into buying consortia with
507	other member districts for the purposes of more efficient use of
508	state resources as described in Section 37-7-345;
509	(xx) To partner with entities, organizations and
510	corporations for the purpose of benefiting the school district;
511	(yy) To borrow funds from the Rural Economic
512	Development Authority for the maintenance of school buildings;
513	(zz) To fund and operate voluntary early childhood
514	education programs, defined as programs for children less than
515	five (5) years of age on or before September 1, and to use any
516	source of revenue for such early childhood education programs.

517	Such programs shall not conflict with the Early Learning
518	Collaborative Act of 2013;
519	(aaa) To issue and provide for the use of procurement
520	cards by school board members, superintendents and licensed school
521	personnel consistent with the rules and regulations of the
522	Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration under Section
523	31-7-9; and
524	(bbb) To conduct an annual comprehensive evaluation of
525	the superintendent of schools consistent with the assessment
526	components of paragraph (pp) of this section and the assessment
527	benchmarks established by the Mississippi School Board Association
528	to evaluate the success the superintendent has attained in meeting
529	district goals and objectives, the superintendent's leadership
530	skill and whether or not the superintendent has established
531	appropriate standards for performance, is monitoring success and
532	is using data for improvement.
533	SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
534	and after July 1, 2017.