

By: Representative Bell (21st)

To: Workforce Development;
Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 526

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STUDY
2 COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
3 STUDY COMMITTEE SHALL REVIEW THE CURRICULUM IN K-12 SCHOOLS THAT
4 IS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATION AND
5 SHALL DEVELOP AND DESIGN A CURRICULUM THAT MEETS THE WORKFORCE
6 DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
7 MEMBERSHIP OF THE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STUDY
8 COMMITTEE; TO REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STUDY
9 COMMITTEE TO SUBMIT A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE LEGISLATURE
10 AND GOVERNOR NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30, 2018; AND FOR RELATED
11 PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Mississippi Workforce
14 Development Study Committee. The purpose of the study committee
15 is to review the curriculum in K-12 schools that is designed to
16 promote workforce development and preparation and to develop and
17 design a curriculum to recommend to the Legislature that meets the
18 workforce development needs of the State of Mississippi.

19 (2) The Mississippi Workforce Development Study Committee
20 shall be composed of the following eleven (11) members:

21 (a) The State Superintendent of Education;



22 (b) One (1) person from the Mississippi Community
23 College Board;
24 (c) One (1) person from the Mississippi Manufacturers
25 Association;
26 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
27 Department of Employment Security, or his or her designee;
28 (e) One (1) person from the State Workforce Investment
29 Board;
30 (f) One (1) person appointed by the Chair of the
31 Mississippi Economic Council;
32 (g) One (1) person appointed by the Lieutenant
33 Governor;
34 (h) One (1) person appointed by the Speaker of the
35 House of Representatives;
36 (i) One (1) person appointed by the Governor;
37 (j) The Chair of the House of Representatives Workforce
38 Development Committee; and
39 (k) The Chair of the Senate Labor Committee.
40 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
41 the sine die adjournment of the 2018 Regular Session. The chair
42 of the study committee shall be the Chair of the House of
43 Representatives Workforce Development Committee. The study
44 committee shall meet and organize fifteen (15) days after all
45 appointments have been made and select a vice chair from its
46 membership. The vice chair shall also serve as secretary and



47 shall be responsible for keeping all records of the study
48 committee. A majority of the members of the study committee shall
49 constitute a quorum. In the selection of its officers and the
50 adoption of rules, resolutions and reports, an affirmative vote of
51 a majority of the study committee shall be required. All members
52 shall be notified in writing of all meetings, such notices to be
53 mailed at least fifteen (15) days before the date on which a
54 meeting is to be held. Members of the study committee shall not
55 be compensated or reimbursed for travel expenses.

56 (4) The Mississippi Workforce Development Study Committee
57 shall have the following duties:

58 (a) Review the curriculum currently in place to promote
59 workforce development preparation in K-12 schools;

60 (b) Determine if the curriculum currently in place to
61 promote workforce development preparation in K-12 schools meets
62 the workforce development needs of the State of Mississippi;

63 (c) To review reports, studies and materials as it
64 deems appropriate;

65 (d) To require testimony from school officials,
66 community college and university officials, business people and
67 others involved with workforce development within the state as it
68 deems appropriate;

69 (e) To appoint any subcommittees as it finds proper;

70 (f) To make recommendations based on its findings on
71 how to develop and design a state workforce development curriculum



that meets the workforce development needs of the State of Mississippi;

(g) To submit the report from its findings in paragraph (f) of this subsection (4) to the Legislature and the Governor no later than November 30, 2018.

(5) In making such recommendations, the Mississippi Workforce Development Study Committee may seek input from all school districts within the state, the Mississippi Community College Board, the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and businesses throughout this state as is necessary for proper review. After submitting the report required in this subsection (5), the Mississippi Workforce Development Study Committee shall be dissolved.

(6) Notwithstanding any provisions of the laws of the State of Mississippi to the contrary, school districts within the state, the Mississippi Community College Board, the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and businesses throughout this state shall be required to cooperate with the Mississippi Workforce Development Study Committee.

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

