

**Adopted
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

House Bill No. 1336

BY: Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

37 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known, and may be cited as the
38 "Mississippi Learn to Earn Act."

39 **SECTION 2.** As used in this act the following terms shall
40 have the meaning ascribed in this section, unless context requires
41 otherwise:

42 (a) "Alternative learning course" or "alternative
43 course, program or opportunity" means a sequence of instruction
44 over a period of time that meets reasonably equivalent
45 requirements or competencies of a subject or subjects included in
46 the career and technical education curriculum included in the



47 College and Career Readiness Standards, which result in the
48 granting of a credit leading to high school graduation.

49 (b) "Apprenticeship" means

50 (i) A program that meets the federal guidelines
51 set out in 29 CFR Part 29, including Industry Programs; or

52 (ii) An apprenticeship program that already exists
53 or created by a Mississippi statute, rule or licensing authority.

54 (c) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

55 (d) "Department" means the State Department of
56 Education.

57 (e) "Licensing" means any required training, education,
58 or fee to work in a specific profession.

59 (f) "Licensing authority" means an agency, examining
60 board, credentialing board, or other office with the authority to
61 impose occupational fees or licensing requirements on any
62 profession.

63 (g) "Sponsoring organization" means any business,
64 industry, whether public or private, nonprofit organization,
65 for-profit organization or other appropriate entities that partner
66 with a local school district or multiple districts to provide
67 alternative learning courses through apprenticeships, internships
68 or pre-apprenticeships, subject to guidelines prescribed by the
69 State Board of Education.

70 **SECTION 3.** The State Board of Education, in conjunction with
71 the Department of Employment Security, the State Workforce



72 Investment Board, the Mississippi Community College Board, and any
73 relevant licensing authority shall identify high school-to-work
74 apprenticeships and other student internship programs that may be
75 eligible for exemptions from those federal and state labor laws
76 and regulations for which exemptions are available for student
77 apprenticeship programs. The State Board of Education, the
78 Department of Employment Security, the State Workforce Investment
79 Board and the Mississippi Community College Board shall also
80 establish procedures by which such exemptions may be obtained for
81 high school-to-work apprenticeships and other student internship
82 programs.

83 **SECTION 4.** (1) For the 2021-2022 school term, the State
84 Board of Education shall promulgate a rule authorizing local
85 school boards in their discretion, to develop an Extended Learning
86 Opportunity to include alternative educational opportunities
87 available to students in Grade 10 through Grade 12, which are
88 provided through apprenticeships, internships or
89 pre-apprenticeships for elective course credit.

90 (2) Each local school board may adopt an Extended Learning
91 Opportunities policy to include alternative educational
92 opportunities for course credit that recognizes learning
93 opportunities outside of the traditional classroom through
94 apprenticeships, internships or pre-apprenticeships, and grants
95 elective credit for those alternative learning opportunities. If
96 adopted the policy shall:



97 (a) Provide for an application process for entities to
98 submit proposals for alternative educational opportunities that
99 will qualify for elective course credit;

100 (b) Define which entities are eligible to submit
101 applications for alternative educational opportunities, which such
102 entities shall include, but not be limited to:

103 (i) Nonprofit organizations;

104 (ii) Businesses with established locations in the
105 state;

106 (iii) Trade associations;

107 (iv) Parents of students involved in programs that
108 may otherwise qualify for alternative educational opportunities;

109 (v) Teachers involved in programs outside of the
110 traditional classroom; and

111 (vi) School personnel involved in programs outside
112 of the traditional classroom.

113 (c) Provide for the criteria used to evaluate the
114 alternative educational opportunity;

115 (d) Describe any communication and collaboration needed
116 with local school districts to implement alternative educational
117 opportunities approved by the State Board of Education;

118 (e) Place requirements on the entity such as background
119 checks for key personnel and minimum accountability standards; and

120 (f) Provide a process for student credit transfer.



121 (3) The local school board is authorized to approve or deny
122 an application for an alternative educational opportunity. If an
123 application is approved by the school board, the application shall
124 be submitted to the State Board of Education for review as
125 provided in Section 6 of this act, prior to the implementation of
126 the program within the local school district.

127 (4) The State Department of Education shall have the
128 authority to audit approved alternative educational programs at
129 any time. If the audit results in findings that an approved
130 program is not meeting the provisions of this act or the policy
131 outlined in subsection (2) of this section, then the local school
132 board shall disqualify the program immediately.

133 **SECTION 5.** (1) (a) The department shall accept
134 applications from local school districts for the implementation of
135 alternative courses, programs and opportunities or apprenticeship
136 programs no later than six (6) months from the passage of this
137 act. The department shall require an application for each
138 alternative course, program or opportunity or apprenticeship
139 program approved by a local school board to be implemented in its
140 school district.

141 (b) Upon receipt of an application, the department
142 shall have ninety (90) days to approve or deny the application.
143 Any denied application shall be returned to the submitting local
144 school board and shall include an explanation of the reasons for
145 denial of the application.



146 (2) The State Department of Education shall provide an
147 annual report detailing the progress that has been made in each
148 school district in providing alternative courses, programs and
149 opportunities or apprenticeships. The report shall be provided to
150 the Chairmen of the Senate and House Education Committees no later
151 than December 1 of each year. The report also shall be provided
152 to the other members of the Legislature upon request and posted on
153 the department's website for the general public to view.

154 **SECTION 6.** (1) Beginning with the effective date of this
155 act, a licensing authority shall grant a license to any student
156 applicant who participates in an alternative learning course,
157 program or opportunity or apprenticeship program, and who meets
158 the following criteria:

159 (a) Completed an apprenticeship in the licensed
160 occupation or profession;

161 (b) Attained a satisfactory industry certification
162 score on the WorkKeys assessment, if such assessment is a required
163 component of the alternative course or apprenticeship;

164 (c) Passed an examination, if one (1) is deemed to be
165 necessary by the licensing authority; and

166 (d) Paid any fees deemed necessary by the licensing
167 authority.

168 (2) Licensing authorities shall establish a passing score
169 for their respective examinations which shall not exceed the
170 passing score that is required under the standard licensing



171 processes. If the relevant licensing authority or provision of
172 law does not require an examination for the standard licensing
173 process for an occupation, no examination may be required for
174 applicants who complete an apprenticeship in that occupation.

175 (3) Licensing authorities shall establish a licensing fee,
176 which shall not exceed the licensing fee that is required under
177 the standard licensing processes. If the relevant licensing
178 authority or state does not require a fee for the standard
179 licensing process for an occupation, no fee can be required for
180 applicants who complete an apprenticeship in that occupation.

181 (4) Except as otherwise required by federal law,
182 apprenticeships for an occupation shall not be required to exceed
183 the number of hours required by the relevant licensing authority
184 or statute for that occupation.

185 (5) Licensing authorities shall adopt necessary rules for
186 the implementation of this section.

187 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
188 and after July 1, 2020, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2020.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE "MISSISSIPPI LEARN TO EARN ACT"; TO
2 DEFINE TERMS; TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN
3 CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, THE STATE
4 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AND THE MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE
5 BOARD, TO IDENTIFY HIGH SCHOOL-TO-WORK APPRENTICESHIPS AND OTHER
6 STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS THAT MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR EXEMPTIONS
7 FROM FEDERAL AND STATE LABOR LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR WHICH
8 EXEMPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, AND



9 ESTABLISH PROCEDURES BY WHICH SUCH EXEMPTIONS MAY BE OBTAINED BY
10 SUCH PROGRAMS; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO
11 SUBSTITUTE INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION AND STATE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS
12 FOR ANY OTHER STATE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF AWARDING
13 ELECTIVE CREDIT FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES; TO
14 ALLOW STUDENT WHO EARNS CREDIT UPON COMPLETION OF A REGISTERED
15 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TO USE SUCH CREDIT TO SATISFY HIGH SCHOOL
16 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; TO REQUIRE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO
17 DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL-TO-WORK
18 APPRENTICESHIPS BETWEEN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES;
19 TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL SCHOOL
20 BOARDS TO DEVELOP AN EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY TO INCLUDE
21 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS IN
22 GRADE 10 THROUGH GRADE 12 AND TO ADOPT A POLICY TO INCLUDE
23 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR COURSE CREDIT THAT
24 RECOGNIZES LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF THE TRADITIONAL
25 CLASSROOM; TO PROVIDE FOR A TWO-TIERED APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE
26 IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COURSES, PROGRAM OR
27 OPPORTUNITIES AND APPRENTICESHIPS IN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS; TO
28 REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL
29 REPORT ON DISTRICTS PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE COURSES, PROGRAMS AND
30 OPPORTUNITIES OR APPRENTICESHIPS; TO REQUIRE STATE LICENSING
31 AUTHORITIES TO GRANT A LICENSE TO ANY STUDENT APPLICANT WHO
32 PARTICIPATES IN AN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COURSE, PROGRAM OR
33 OPPORTUNITY OR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND SATISFIES THE LICENSING
34 REQUIREMENT FOR SAID OCCUPATION UPON CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND FOR
35 RELATED PURPOSES.

