

By: Senator(s) Sparks

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2529

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-16-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED FOR HIGH SCHOOL
3 GRADUATION SHALL INCLUDE ONLY THOSE REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW; AND
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-16-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-16-7. (1) Each district school board shall establish
9 standards for graduation from its schools which shall include as a
10 minimum:

11 (a) Mastery of minimum academic skills as measured by
12 assessments developed and administered by the State Board of
13 Education, provided that end-of-course assessments required for
14 graduation shall only include those that are required by federal
15 law.

16 (b) Completion of a minimum number of academic credits,
17 and all other applicable requirements prescribed by the district
18 school board.



19 (c) By school, information on high school graduation
20 rates. High schools with graduation rates lower than eighty
21 percent (80%) must submit a detailed plan to the Mississippi
22 Department of Education to restructure the high school experience
23 to improve graduation rates.

24 (2) A student who meets all requirements prescribed in
25 subsection (1) of this section shall be awarded a standard diploma
26 in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

27 (3) The State Board of Education may establish student
28 proficiency standards for promotion to grade levels leading to
29 graduation.

30 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
31 and after July 1, 2021.

