

By: Representative Roberson

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1354

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "MILITARY STAR SCHOOLS ACT"; TO REQUIRE  
 2 THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH THE MILITARY  
 3 STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOLS TO CREATE PARTNERSHIPS  
 4 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING TRANSITION SUPPORTS TO  
 5 MILITARY-CONNECTED FAMILIES AND CHILDREN WHO HAVE RECENTLY MOVED  
 6 INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION  
 7 IN THE PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT  
 8 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF  
 9 THE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
 12 "Military Star Schools Act."

13 **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section, the term "military  
 14 student" means a student who is:

15 (a) Enrolled in a public school district, public  
 16 charter school, school of innovation or any school or educational  
 17 institution; and

18 (b) A dependent of a current member of the United  
 19 States military serving on active duty in, or a former member of,  
 20 the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force or Coast



21 Guard; a reserve component of any branch of the United States  
22 military; or any component of the Mississippi National Guard.

23 (2) (a) The State Department of Education shall establish  
24 the Military Star School program. At a minimum, the program must  
25 require a participating school to:

26 (i) Designate a staff member as a military  
27 ambassador;

28 (ii) Maintain a web page on the school's website  
29 which includes resources for military students and their families;

30 (iii) Maintain a peer-to-peer transition program  
31 that assists military students in transitioning into the school;  
32 and

33 (iv) Offer professional development training  
34 opportunities for staff members on issues relating to military  
35 students.

36 (b) The department may establish additional criteria to  
37 identify schools that demonstrate a commitment to or provide  
38 critical transition supports for military-connected families, such  
39 as hosting an annual military recognition event, partnering with a  
40 school liaison officer from a military installation, supporting  
41 projects that connect the school with the military community, and  
42 providing outreach for military parents and their children.

43 (3) A school may partner with a school district to procure  
44 digital, professional development or other assistance necessary  
45 for the school to meet the criteria specified in subsection (2).



46           (4) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
47 implement this section.

48           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
49 and after July 1, 2022.

