

By: Representative Crawford

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1405

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR  
2 COLLEGES AND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING FROM REQUIRING  
3 STUDENTS TO WEAR FACE MASKS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The school board of a local school district, a  
6 school district superintendent, an elected or appointed local  
7 official, or an employee of a school district may not require a  
8 student to wear a face mask, face shield or any other facial  
9 covering that fits over the mouth or nose. However, a parent, in  
10 the parent's sole discretion, may allow the parent's child to wear  
11 a face mask, face shield or other facial covering that fits over  
12 the mouth or nose. The prohibition in this section does not apply  
13 to safety equipment required as part of a course of study  
14 consistent with occupational or laboratory safety requirements.

15 **SECTION 2.** The president of a state institution of higher  
16 learning or public community or junior college, an elected or  
17 appointed local official, or a policy making body or individual  
18 employee of a state institution of higher learning or community or



19 junior college may not require a student to wear a face mask, face  
20 shield or any other facial covering that fits over the mouth or  
21 nose. However, a student, in the student's sole discretion, may  
22 elect to wear a face mask, face shield or other facial covering  
23 that fits over the mouth or nose. The prohibition in this section  
24 does not apply to safety equipment required as part of a course of  
25 study consistent with occupational or laboratory safety  
26 requirements.

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

