

**Adopted
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Senate Bill No. 2333

BY: Committee

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

52 **SECTION 1.** As used in this act, the term "seizure action
53 plan" means a written, individualized health plan designed to
54 acknowledge and prepare for the health care needs of a student or
55 employee diagnosed with a seizure disorder.

56 **SECTION 2.** (1) (a) Beginning on July 1, 2024, the local
57 school board of each public school district shall have at least
58 one (1) school employee or vendor at each school who has met the
59 training requirements necessary to administer or assist with the
60 self-administration of a seizure rescue medication or medication
61 prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms as approved by the



62 United States Food and Drug Administration and any successor
63 agency.

64 (b) For those assigned the duties under paragraph (a)
65 of this subsection, the training provided shall include
66 instructions in administering seizure medications as well as the
67 recognition of the signs and symptoms of seizures and the
68 appropriate steps to be taken to respond to these symptoms.

69 (c) The presence of a registered nurse employed full
70 time by a school who assumes responsibility for the administration
71 of seizure medications may fulfill requirements of paragraphs (a)
72 and (b) of this subsection.

73 (d) The Mississippi Department of Education shall
74 provide webinar training at no cost and shall make such training
75 available to all public and charter schools in the state. Public
76 and charter schools shall provide training to all relevant
77 personnel who have direct contact and supervision of children, on
78 the recognition of the signs and symptoms of seizures and the
79 appropriate steps for seizure first aid.

80 (e) A local school district shall be permitted to use
81 any adequate and appropriate training program or guidelines for
82 training of school personnel in the seizure disorder care tasks
83 covered under this section.

84 (2) (a) Before administering a seizure rescue medication or
85 medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms, the
86 student's parent, guardian or responsible adult shall:



87 (i) Provide the school with a written
88 authorization to administer the medication at school;

89 (ii) Provide a written statement from the person's
90 health care practitioner, which shall contain the following
91 information:

92 1. Full name;
93 2. The name and purpose of the medication;
94 3. The prescribed dosage;
95 4. The route of administration;
96 5. The frequency that the medication may be
97 administered; and

98 6. The circumstances under which the
99 medication may be administered;

100 (iii) Provide the prescribed medication to the
101 school in its unopened, sealed package with the label affixed by
102 the dispensing pharmacy intact.

103 (b) In addition to the statements required in paragraph
104 (a) of this subsection, the parent or guardian, or adult shall
105 collaborate with school personnel to create a seizure action plan.

106 (3) The statements and seizure action plan required in
107 subsection (2) of this section shall be kept on file in the office
108 of the school nurse or school administrator.

109 (4) The permission for the administration of any of the
110 medications authorized under subsection (1)(a) of this section
111 shall be effective for the school year in which it is granted and



112 shall be renewed each following school year upon fulfilling the
113 requirements of subsections (2) through (4) of this section.

114 (5) The requirements of this section shall apply only to
115 schools that have an adult employee or enrolled student who has a
116 seizure disorder, a seizure rescue medication or medication
117 prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms approved by the
118 United States Food and Drug Administration and any successor
119 agency prescribed by the student's health care provider.

120 **SECTION 3.** A school district, school district employee or
121 agent acting in good faith and in substantial compliance with the
122 student's individual health plan and the instructions of the
123 student's licensed health care professional, that provides
124 assistance or services under this act shall be immune from
125 criminal prosecution and shall not be liable in any criminal
126 action for civil damages in his or her individual, marital,
127 governmental, corporate or other capacities as a result of the
128 services provided under this act to students with epilepsy or
129 seizure disorders.

130 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of Sections 4 through 8 of this
131 act shall be known and may be cited as the "Mental Awareness
132 Program for School Act."

133 **SECTION 5.** Section 37-3-89, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
134 amended as follows:

135 37-3-89. (1) The State Board of Education, acting through
136 the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,



137 Certification and Licensure and Development, shall require each
138 educator preparation program in the state, as a condition for
139 approval, to include a course or courses on school discipline or
140 classroom management, including mental disturbance awareness and
141 trauma-informed approaches as defined in subsection (2) of this
142 section, as a required part of the teacher education program. All
143 school discipline or classroom management courses offered by a
144 teacher education program shall be approved by the Educator
145 License Commission.

146 (2) "Mental disturbance awareness and trauma-informed
147 approaches" means incorporating principles of mental disturbance
148 awareness, trauma awareness and trauma-informed practices, as
149 recommended by the federal Department of Health and Human
150 Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
151 Administration, in a school in order to foster a safe learning
152 environment for all students and staff, and to ensure that each
153 student is well-known by at least one (1) adult in the school
154 setting.

155 **SECTION 6.** Section 37-9-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
156 amended as follows:

157 37-9-79. (1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the
158 assignment of K-12 Professional School Counselors to the
159 particular schools within the district shall be at the discretion
160 of the local school board with the following restrictions:



161 (a) As funds and qualified personnel become available,
162 every public school district and public charter school shall
163 employ at least one (1) school counselor in each school;

164 (b) As funds and qualified personnel become available,
165 it shall be the goal that each public school district and public
166 charter school shall provide at least one (1) school counselor for
167 every two hundred fifty (250) students, including, but not limited
168 to, the school counselor required in paragraph (a) of this
169 subsection;

170 (c) If funds or qualified personnel are not available
171 each public school district and public charter school shall employ
172 at least one (1) school counselor who shall serve the entire
173 school district, and who shall proportionately allocate his or her
174 service, on a rotational basis, to each school in the school
175 district or each public charter school under the jurisdiction of a
176 single charter governing board. Additionally, in the event that a
177 mental disturbance or trauma-inducing incident occurs at any
178 school in the school district or charter district on a date the
179 school counselor is not scheduled in assigned service rotation at
180 that school, the school counselor shall be temporarily assigned to
181 the school where the incident occurred, until such time that the
182 school counselor, building principal and district superintendent
183 or charter administrator reasonably conclude that the trauma has
184 been mitigated.



185 (* * *d) Except as otherwise provided under subsection
186 (6) of this section, no individual shall be employed as a
187 professional school counselor without a minimum of a master's
188 degree in * * * counseling, or in an emergency situation, an
189 appropriate certification as determined by the Commission on
190 Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure
191 and Development; and

192 (* * *e) Professional school counselors shall provide
193 the following comprehensive counseling services:

194 (i) Academic, * * * social, emotional and
195 college-and-career readiness counseling;

196 (ii) Use multiple student data sources to help
197 students make informed academic and career choices;

198 (iii) Career and educational counseling;

199 (iv) Individual and group counseling
200 (large/small);

201 (v) Crisis intervention and preventive counseling;

202 (vi) Referrals to community agencies;

203 (vii) Educational consultations and collaboration
204 with teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders;

205 (viii) Educational and career placement services;

206 (ix) Follow-up counseling services;

207 (x) Conflict resolution; and

208 (xi) Professional school counselors must spend a
209 minimum of eighty percent (80%) of their * * * time to the



210 delivery of services to students * * *. Delivery of services is
211 the direct service provided to students, parents, school staff and
212 the community which are interaction between professional school
213 counselors and students. These direct services may include the
214 delivery of the following:

215 1. School counseling core curriculum: This
216 curriculum is designed to help students attain the desired
217 competencies and to provide all students with the knowledge,
218 attitudes and skills appropriate for their developmental level.
219 The school counseling core curriculum is delivered throughout the
220 school's overall curriculum and may be presented by professional
221 school counselors in collaboration with other professional
222 educators and other resources. Collaborative efforts may be
223 implemented to enhance the services provided.

224 2. Individual student planning: Professional
225 school counselors coordinate ongoing systemic activities or
226 individual/group sessions designed to assist students in
227 establishing personal/social goals and developing future career
228 plans.

229 3. Responsive services: Responsive services
230 are designed to meet students' immediate needs and concerns in
231 regard to social/personal issues. Responsive services may include
232 counseling in individual, small-group settings, * * * crisis
233 responses, mentally disturbance awareness or trauma-informed
234 approaches as defined in Section 37-3-89(2).



235 4. Indirect Student Services: Indirect
236 services are provided on behalf of students as a result of the
237 school counselors' interactions with others including referrals
238 for additional assistance, consultation and collaboration with
239 parents, teachers, other educators and community organizations.

240 (2) Professional school counselors shall abide by * * * a
241 relevant national counseling code of ethics.

242 (3) A professional school counselor or administrator shall
243 facilitate at each school the creation of a trauma-informed team
244 to identify students whose learning, behavior and relationships
245 have been impacted by trauma. The trauma-informed team may
246 consist of school administrators, school counselors, teachers,
247 mental health services providers, family resource and youth
248 service coordinators, school nurses and any other school or
249 district personnel.

250 (4) Each school counselor providing services pursuant to
251 this section, in collaboration with the trauma-informed team
252 members described in this section, shall provide at least one (1)
253 hour of in-person or virtual annual training, guidance and
254 assistance to administrators, teachers and staff on:

255 (a) Recognizing symptoms of mentally induced
256 disturbance or trauma in students; and

257 (b) Utilizing responses, interventions and strategies
258 to support the learning needs of those students.



259 (5) (a) School districts may employ, contract or otherwise
260 work collaboratively with mental health service providers,
261 including community mental health centers, other organizations
262 providing relevant training for educators and school personnel, or
263 other school districts to assist with the development and
264 implementation of mental awareness and trauma-informed approaches
265 and a trauma-informed team.

266 (b) School districts and public charter schools may
267 enter in a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Consortium for
268 Career Development in Social Work Education, or other similar
269 nationally recognized consortium career services professionals
270 representing and/or serving social work education, which partner
271 with colleges and universities serving social work students in the
272 State of Mississippi, including, but not limited to, Delta State
273 University, Jackson State University, Mississippi State University
274 and the University of Mississippi. Through the use of the MOA the
275 consortium shall establish a program in collaboration with the
276 Social Work Departments of the participating colleges and
277 universities to:

278 (i) Provide students pursuing master's degrees in
279 social work, counseling or psychology with internship placement
280 opportunities in school districts or charter schools to assist in
281 providing counseling services to schools in need;



282 (ii) Provide students pursuing master's degrees in
283 social work, counseling or psychology with practical workplace
284 experience; and

285 (iii) Pair such students with local
286 consortium-member mentees who will offer professional guidance and
287 constructive observation and feedback.

288 (6) Local school districts and each public charter school
289 shall report the number and placement of school counselors in the
290 district to the State Department of Education no later than
291 November 1, 2023, and each subsequent year thereafter. The report
292 shall include the source of funding for each position, as well as
293 a summary of the job duties of each counselor and the approximate
294 percent of time devoted to duties over the course of the year.

295 (* * *7) The State Department of Education may adopt
296 regulations regarding the activities of the professional school
297 counselor as are not inconsistent with this section.

298 **SECTION 7.** The following shall be codified as Section
299 37-9-80, Mississippi Code of 1972:

300 37-9-80. (1) On or before July 1, 2023, the State
301 Department of Education, in collaboration with the State
302 Department of Mental Health, shall make available a toolkit to
303 assist school districts and public charter schools in
304 implementing trauma-informed teams as described in Section
305 37-9-79(3). The toolkit shall include a template for local boards
306 of education and public charter schools to develop a plan to



307 incorporate mental disturbance awareness and trauma-informed
308 approaches in schools.

309 (2) On or before July 1, 2025, each local board of education
310 and public charter school shall develop a plan for implementing
311 trauma-informed teams and mental disturbance awareness and
312 trauma-informed approaches in its schools. These plans shall be
313 submitted to the State Department of Education and the State
314 Department of Mental Health, which may collaborate to provide
315 feedback to school districts on the plans. Plans shall include,
316 but not be limited to, strategies for:

317 (a) Enhancing mental disturbance and trauma awareness
318 throughout the school community and provide services designed to
319 foster a safe school environment for students;

320 (b) Developing trauma-informed discipline policies and
321 practices, which may include consultation with the school
322 counselor or school-based mental health services provider when a
323 student is recommended for suspension for ten (10) or more days,
324 expulsion or attendance at an alternative school; and

325 (c) Collaborating with appropriate and relevant school,
326 public safety, and community organizations to create procedures
327 for notification of trauma-exposed students.

328 **SECTION 8.** Section 37-173-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
329 amended as follows:



330 37-173-1. As used in this chapter, the following words and
331 phrases shall have the meanings ascribed in this section unless
332 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

333 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

334 (b) "Department" means the State Department of
335 Education.

336 (c) "Dyslexia" means a specific learning disability
337 that is neurological in origin, characterized by difficulties with
338 accurate and fluent word recognition and poor spelling and
339 decoding abilities, which typically result from a deficit in the
340 phonological component of language that is often unexpected in
341 relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of
342 effective classroom instruction, and secondary consequences which
343 may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading
344 experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background
345 knowledge.

346 (d) "Dyslexia therapy" means an appropriate specialized
347 dyslexia instructional program that is delivered by a Mississippi
348 Department of Education licensed dyslexia therapist or certified
349 academic language therapist, which is scientific, research-based,
350 Orton-Gillingham based, and is offered in a small group setting to
351 teach students the components of reading instruction which
352 include:

353 (i) Phonemic awareness to enable students to
354 detect, segment, blend and manipulate sounds in spoken language;



- 355 (ii) Graphophonemic knowledge (phonics) for
356 teaching the letter-sound plan of English;
- 357 (iii) The entire structure of the English language
358 that encompasses morphology, semantics, syntax and pragmatics;
- 359 (iv) Linguistic instruction directed toward
360 proficiency and fluency with the patterns of language so that
361 words and sentences are carriers of meaning; and
- 362 (v) Strategies that students use for decoding,
363 encoding, word recognition, fluency and comprehension.

364 These components shall be taught using instructional
365 approaches that include explicit, direct instruction which is
366 systematic, sequential and cumulative, following a logical plan of
367 presenting the alphabetic principle commensurate with the
368 students' needs, with no assumption of prior skills or language
369 knowledge; individualized to meet the specific learning needs of
370 each individual student in a small group setting; intensive,
371 highly concentrated instruction that maximizes student engagement
372 and uses specialized methods and materials; meaning-based
373 instruction directed toward purposeful reading and writing, with
374 an emphasis on comprehension and composition; and multisensory
375 instruction that incorporates the simultaneous use of two (2) or
376 more sensory pathways during teacher presentations and student
377 practice.

378 (e) "Dyslexia therapist" means a professional who has
379 completed training in a department approved Orton-Gillingham based



380 dyslexia therapy training program attaining a AA license in
381 dyslexia therapy * * *, a professional participating in a state
382 approved dyslexia therapy training program to attain a AA license
383 in dyslexia therapy or a certified academic language therapist.

384 (f) "Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for
385 Students with Dyslexia Program" means a scholarship to provide the
386 option to attend a public school other than the one to which
387 assigned, or to provide a scholarship to a nonpublic school of
388 choice, for students in Grade 1 through Grade 12 diagnosed with
389 dyslexia in order to receive comprehensive multisensory dyslexia
390 therapy delivered by holders of an appropriate license in dyslexia
391 therapy issued by the department.

392 (g) "School" means any public or state accredited
393 nonpublic special purpose school that provides a specific learning
394 environment that provides comprehensive dyslexia therapy
395 instruction delivered by dyslexia therapists licensed by the
396 department providing highly qualified education and intervention
397 services to children diagnosed with the primary learning
398 disability of dyslexia.

399 **SECTION 9.** Section 37-173-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
400 amended as follows:

401 37-173-9. (1) (a) The parent or legal guardian is not
402 required to accept the offer of enrolling in another public school
403 in lieu of requesting a Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship
404 to a nonpublic school. However, if the parent or legal guardian



405 chooses the public school option, the student may continue
406 attending a public school chosen by the parent or legal guardian
407 until the student completes Grade 12.

408 (b) If the parent or legal guardian chooses a public
409 school within the district, the school district shall provide
410 transportation to the public school selected by the parent or
411 legal guardian. However, if the parent or legal guardian chooses
412 a public school in another district, the parent or legal guardian
413 is responsible to provide transportation to the school of choice.

414 These provisions do not prohibit a parent or legal guardian
415 of a student diagnosed with dyslexia, at any time, from choosing
416 the option of a Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship which
417 would allow the student to attend another public school or
418 nonpublic special purpose school.

419 (2) If the parent or legal guardian chooses the nonpublic
420 school option and the student is accepted by the nonpublic school
421 pending the availability of a space for the student, the parent or
422 legal guardian of the student must notify the department thirty
423 (30) days before the first scholarship payment and before entering
424 the nonpublic school in order to be eligible for the scholarship
425 when a space becomes available for the student in the nonpublic
426 school.

427 (3) The parent or legal guardian of a student may choose, as
428 an alternative, to enroll the student in and transport the student
429 to a public school in an adjacent school district which has



430 available space and has a program with dyslexia services that
431 provide daily dyslexia therapy sessions delivered by a department
432 licensed dyslexia therapist or certified academic language
433 therapist, and that school district shall accept the student and
434 report the student for purposes of the district's funding under
435 the Mississippi Adequate Education Program.

436 **SECTION 10.** Section 37-173-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
437 amended as follows:

438 37-173-21. (1) The State Board of Education in conjunction
439 with each nonpublic school and local school board operating under
440 the provisions of this chapter, may:

441 (a) Extend the school day or length of the scholastic
442 year;

443 (b) Develop and establish a curriculum that is
444 consistent with the Mississippi Curriculum Framework in the
445 subject areas of mathematics, social studies, science, music, art
446 and physical education; and

447 (c) Select, purchase and use textbooks, literature and
448 other instructional materials that would improve educational
449 attainment by students in the school, subject to the approval of
450 the board.

451 (2) The qualified personnel to facilitate the educational
452 process of learning and instruction for children with dyslexia who
453 attend the schools shall consist of the following:



454 (a) An administrator or director with additional
455 training in the characteristics of dyslexia;

456 (b) A dyslexia therapist licensed by the department in
457 dyslexia therapy;

458 (c) Dyslexia therapists in training participating in a
459 department approved dyslexia therapy graduate internship program;
460 and

461 (d) Licensed elementary teachers under the supervision
462 of a state department licensed dyslexia therapist or certified
463 academic language therapist qualified instructor.

464 **SECTION 11.** Section 37-106-71, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
465 amended as follows:

466 37-106-71. (1) There is established the Mississippi
467 Dyslexia Education Forgivable Loan Program for the purpose of
468 identifying and recruiting qualified university and college
469 students from the state for schooling in education with a focus on
470 dyslexia therapy.

471 (2) The receipt of a forgivable loan under the program shall
472 be solely limited to those students who are enrolled in or who
473 have been accepted for enrollment into a master's degree program
474 of study for dyslexia therapy at any public or private institution
475 of higher learning within the State of Mississippi at the time an
476 application for a forgivable loan is filed with the board.

477 (3) The annual amount of the forgivable loan award shall be
478 equal to the total cost for tuition, materials and fees at the



479 college or university in which the student is enrolled. Awards
480 made to nonresidents of the state shall not include any amount
481 assessed by the college or university for out-of-state tuition.

482 (4) Upon completion of the master's program and licensure
483 requirements, a forgivable loan recipient who has not been
484 previously licensed by the State Department of Education shall
485 render service in an instructional or clinical capacity as a
486 licensed dyslexia therapist in a public school district in the
487 state or an eligible nonpublic school as defined by Section
488 37-173-1 and meets the criteria established in Section 37-173-17,
489 not to exceed five (5) recipients rendering instructional or
490 clinical services in a nonpublic school at any time.

491 (5) Repayment and conversion terms shall be the same as
492 those outlined in Section 37-106-53.

493 (6) The board shall prepare and submit a report to the
494 Legislature by January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, outlining
495 in detail the number of participants who have received forgivable
496 loans under the program, the record of service provided by those
497 recipients as they transition out of the degree program into the
498 public school districts of this state, and the projection for
499 expanding the program to include more participants annually as
500 determined by the need for such qualified professionals in the
501 public school setting. Additionally, the report shall include a
502 summary of allocations and expenditures for the administration of
503 the program and the total amount of funds issued to recipients of



504 forgivable loans from the inception of the program until such time
505 as the report has been prepared and submitted to the Legislature.

506 (7) The Mississippi Dyslexia Education Forgivable Loan
507 Program shall be administered in the same manner as the Critical
508 Needs Teacher Forgivable Loan Program established under Section
509 37-106-55 and shall be incorporated into the Critical Needs
510 Teacher Forgivable Loan Program for all purposes.

511 (8) Funding for the establishment and continued operation of
512 the Mississippi Dyslexia Education Forgivable Loan Program shall
513 be administered by the board through a special fund established
514 within the Critical Needs Teacher Forgivable Loan Program. The
515 board may accept and receive monetary gifts and donations from any
516 source, public or private, which such funds shall be deposited in
517 the special fund for the benefit of the Mississippi Dyslexia
518 Education Forgivable Loan Program with the Critical Needs Teacher
519 Forgivable Loan Program.

520 (9) No more than twenty (20) students per cohort shall be
521 selected annually to be admitted into the program for receipt of
522 forgivable loans beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year.
523 However, forgivable loans awarded under the program shall be
524 provided only to students who have been accepted into a Dyslexia
525 Therapy Master's Degree Cohort Program approved by the State
526 Department of Education that provides instructional training as
527 required under Chapter 173, Title 37, Mississippi Code of 1972,



528 for dyslexia therapy in preparation of those cohort students for
529 AA licensure by the department.

530 (10) As part of the Mississippi Dyslexia Education
531 Forgivable Loan Program, the State Department of Education is
532 authorized and directed, subject to the availability of funds
533 specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, to provide
534 financial assistance for the recruitment, placement and employment
535 of qualified licensed dyslexia therapy professionals identified
536 under Section 37-173-15(1) (b), Mississippi Code of 1972, in order
537 to provide dyslexia screening, evaluation and therapy services to
538 the students attending school in the school district. Said
539 funding may be used to purchase curriculum materials and supplies
540 for dyslexia therapy services. Said funding shall be provided to
541 public school districts upon application therefor regardless of
542 the financial need of the school district in an amount not to
543 exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) annually, and subject
544 to specific appropriation therefor by the Legislature. In order
545 to qualify for such funds, the school district shall meet the
546 following criteria:

547 (a) Use licensed dyslexia therapists, certified
548 academic language therapist or individuals participating in an
549 approved training program resulting in State Department of
550 Education licensure to provide dyslexia therapy to students
551 diagnosed with dyslexia;

552 (b) Use daily Orton-Gillingham-based therapy;



553 (c) Have school leadership trained in dyslexia; and
554 (d) Have a current School Program Verification and
555 Assurances form on file with the State Department of Education,
556 Office of Curriculum and Instruction. Procedures and standards
557 for the application for such funds shall be established by
558 regulations developed and issued by the State Board of Education.

559 **SECTION 12.** Section 37-41-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
560 amended as follows:

561 37-41-1. (1) The State Board of Education is authorized,
562 empowered and directed to promulgate rules and regulations
563 relating to the transportation of students enrolled in the public
564 school districts, including rules and regulations for:

565 (a) Setting standards for public school district bus
566 routes;

567 (b) Setting standards for public school district buses;

568 (c) Setting standards for public school district bus
569 drivers;

570 (d) Formulating procedure for selecting public school
571 district bus drivers;

572 (e) Formulating courses of training for public school
573 district bus drivers and mechanics, and assist in administering
574 and financing such courses;

575 (f) Providing operation procedure for public school
576 district buses to insure safety of pupils;



577 (g) Formulating specifications for use in purchasing
578 public school district buses; getting bids on public school
579 district buses; equipment and supplies; and fixing prices based
580 upon said bids which school districts may not exceed in purchasing
581 said equipment;

582 (h) Formulating specifications for use by school
583 districts in purchasing used school buses; and

584 (i) Providing a system of records and reports for the
585 purpose of carrying out the provisions of Sections 37-41-1 through
586 37-41-51, and providing the superintendent of schools with a
587 sufficient supply of report forms.

588 All rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the
589 State Board of Education relating to school district bus drivers
590 shall also be applicable to drivers of privately owned buses
591 transporting public school district children.

592 All rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the
593 State Board of Education pursuant to the authority conferred by
594 this section shall be spread at large upon the minutes of the
595 State Board of Education and copies thereof shall be furnished to
596 all school boards not less than thirty (30) days prior to the
597 effective date of such rules and regulations.

598 Except for subsection (2) of this section, the provisions of
599 this chapter are applicable to school districts and the
600 transportation of students enrolled in public school districts.



601 Charter schools authorized by the Mississippi Charter School
602 Authorizer Board are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

603 (2) The driver of every school transportation vehicle used
604 to transport pupils must be trained and certified in first aid and
605 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The State Board of Education
606 and Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board shall enforce this
607 subsection.

608 **SECTION 13.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
609 and after July 1, 2023.

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

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2024, EACH PUBLIC
2 SCHOOL BOARD SHALL HAVE AT LEAST ONE EMPLOYEE OR VENDOR AT EACH
3 SCHOOL WHO HAS MET THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY TO
4 ADMINISTER SEIZURE RESCUE MEDICATION FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING
5 SEIZURE DISORDER SYMPTOMS; TO REQUIRE TRAINING FOR SUCH PERSON TO
6 BE CONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE EPILEPSY FOUNDATION
7 OF AMERICA OR SIMILAR SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION; TO REQUIRE THE
8 PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE ADULT OF CHILDREN
9 WHO EXPERIENCE SEIZURE DISORDER SYMPTOMS TO PROVIDE WRITTEN
10 AUTHORIZATION TO THE SCHOOL FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF NECESSARY
11 MEDICATION, ALONG WITH A WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE CHILD'S
12 MEDICAL PROVIDER; TO REQUIRE THE WRITTEN STATEMENT AND THE CHILD'S
13 SEIZURE ACTION PLAN TO BE KEPT ON FILE BY THE SCHOOL NURSE OR
14 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR; TO EXEMPT SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ACTING IN GOOD
15 FAITH AND IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH A STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL
16 HEALTH PLAN TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO A CHILD EXPERIENCING A SEIZURE
17 EPISODE FROM CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY; TO CREATE THE MENTAL
18 AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS; TO AMEND SECTION 37-3-89,
19 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE MENTAL AWARENESS AND
20 TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES IN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS; TO
21 DEFINE TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES; TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-79,
22 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS
23 AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS SHALL HAVE AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL
24 COUNSELOR OR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER PER 250 STUDENTS; TO
25 AUTHORIZE UNDERFUNDED AND UNDERSTAFFED SCHOOLS TO EMPLOY ONE
26 SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO SERVICE ALL THE SCHOOLS IN THE EMPLOYING



27 SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF TIME AND
28 DUTIES WITHIN SUCH DISTRICTS; TO REQUIRE SCHOOL COUNSELORS OR
29 SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDERS TO CREATE A
30 TRAUMA-INFORMED TEAM FOR EACH SCHOOL; TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS
31 AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS TO REPORT THE NUMBER AND PLACEMENT OF
32 SCHOOL COUNSELORS IN THE DISTRICT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;
33 TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF
34 AGREEMENT WITH A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SOCIAL WORK CONSORTIUM AND
35 CERTAIN STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO PLACE MASTER'S
36 LEVEL GRADUATE STUDENTS INTO SCHOOLS AS SCHOOL COUNSELORS UNDER A
37 SUPERVISED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM; TO CREATE NEW SECTION 37-9-80,
38 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT OF
39 EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH,
40 TO CREATE A TOOLKIT TO ASSIST SCHOOLS IN IMPLEMENTING
41 TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES; TO AMEND SECTION 37-173-1, 37-173-9
42 AND 37-173-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXPAND THE DYSLEXIA
43 THERAPY SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA PROGRAM BY MAKING
44 CERTIFIED ACADEMIC LANGUAGE THERAPISTS (CALT) ELIGIBLE TO BE
45 EMPLOYED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PROVIDE DYSLEXIA THERAPY SERVICES;
46 TO AMEND SECTION 37-106-71, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN
47 CONFORMITY TO THE PRECEDING PROVISIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 37-41-1,
48 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS TO BE
49 TRAINED AND CERTIFIED IN FIRST AID AND CARDIOPULMONARY
50 RESUSCITATION (CPR); AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

