

By: Representatives Butler-Washington, Hulum To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1048

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-7-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE THE SCHOOL BOARD OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO EMPLOY ONE
3 OR MORE PERSONS AS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, WHO SHALL BE
4 DESIGNATED AS PEACE OFFICER IN OR ON ALL PROPERTIES OPERATED FOR
5 SCHOOL PURPOSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-7-321, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-7-321. (1) The school board of * * * each school
10 district within the State of Mississippi * * * shall employ one or
11 more persons as * * * school resource officers and * * * shall
12 designate such persons as peace officers in or on * * * all
13 properties operated for school purposes by such board upon their
14 taking such oath and making such bond as required of a constable
15 of the county in which the school district is situated.

16 (2) Any person employed by a school board as a security
17 guard or school resource officer or in any other position that has
18 the powers of a peace officer must receive a minimum level of
19 basic law enforcement training, as jointly determined and



20 prescribed by the Board on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and
21 Training and the State Board of Education, within two (2) years of
22 the person's initial employment in such position. Upon the
23 failure of any person employed in such position to receive the
24 required training within the designated time, the person may not
25 exercise the powers of a peace officer in or on the property of
26 the school district.

27 (3) The school board is authorized and empowered, in its
28 discretion, and subject to the approval of the Federal
29 Communications Commission, to install and operate a noncommercial
30 radio broadcasting and transmission station for educational and
31 vocational educational purposes.

32 (4) If a law enforcement officer is duly appointed to be a
33 peace officer by a school district under this section, the local
34 school board may enter into an interlocal agreement with other law
35 enforcement entities for the provision of equipment or traffic
36 control duties, however, the duty to enforce traffic regulations
37 and to enforce the laws of the state or municipality off of school
38 property lies with the local police or sheriff's department which
39 cannot withhold its services solely because of the lack of such an
40 agreement.

41 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after July 1, 2025.

