

By: Representatives Blackwell, Arnold, Boyd To: Education
(19th), Byrd, Crawford, Estrada, Haney,
Hobgood-Wilkes, Scoggin, Tubb, Waldo

HOUSE BILL NO. 1060

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, COUNSELORS
2 OR OTHER PERSONNEL OF THE SCHOOL TO PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION
3 TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF ANY STUDENT IDENTIFYING AT
4 SCHOOL AS A GENDER OR PRONOUN THAT DOES NOT ALIGN WITH THE CHILD'S
5 SEX ON THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATE, SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH OR USING
6 SEX-SEGREGATED SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OR SCHOOL FACILITIES
7 THAT DO NOT ALIGN WITH THE CHILD'S SEX ASSIGNMENT AT BIRTH, WITHIN
8 THREE DAYS OF BECOMING AWARE OF SUCH CONDUCT OR REQUEST BY THE
9 AFFECTED STUDENT; TO PROVIDE THAT NO SCHOOL PERSONNEL SHALL BE
10 DISCIPLINED OR SUFFER ANY UNLAWFUL REPRISAL FOR REFUSING TO
11 ACKNOWLEDGE A STUDENT BY A PREFERRED GENDER, PRONOUN OR ANIMAL
12 SPECIES THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHILD'S SEX ASSIGNMENT AT
13 BIRTH; TO PRESCRIBE THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND FOR RELATED
14 PURPOSES.

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

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) (a) The parents and guardians of students
17 enrolled in the public schools of the State of Mississippi have
18 the right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive
19 and respectful partners in the education of their children within
20 the public schools, to be informed by the school, and to
21 participate in the education of their children. Notwithstanding
22 any other provision of law to the contrary, both parents, unless a
23 parent's rights have been judicially terminated, or legal guardian
24 of a student enrolled in a public school shall be notified in



25 writing within three (3) days from the date any school
26 administrator, teacher, counselor or other personnel of the school
27 becomes aware that their child is doing either of the following:

28 (i) Identifying at school as a gender or pronoun
29 that does not align with the child's sex on their birth
30 certificate, sex assigned at birth; or

31 (ii) Using sex-segregated school programs and
32 activities, including athletic teams and competitions, or using
33 facilities that do not align with the child's sex on their birth
34 certificate, other official records or sex assigned at birth.

35 (b) In those instances where, due to a divorce decree,
36 parents are required to share joint custody of a child, both
37 parents shall receive individual notice from the school, and for
38 the parent who is not in physical custody of the child, the school
39 shall provide written notice to the last address of record for
40 said parent.

41 (2) No school administrator, teacher, counselor or personnel
42 of the school shall be disciplined, suffer any reprisal or be
43 otherwise punished for his or her refusal to acknowledge a student
44 by a preferred gender or pronoun that is inconsistent with the
45 child's sex on their birth certificate or other official records
46 which reflect the child's sex assigned at birth.

47 (3) Until such time that written notice has been provided,
48 no administrator, teacher, counselor or other school personnel
49 shall address the student by their preferred pronoun until the



50 parents, parent in physical custody, legal guardian or person in
51 loco parentis has provided the school with written approval for
52 his or her child to be addressed by their pronoun of choice.

53 (4) It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting
54 subsection (1) of this section, to do all of the following:

55 (a) Provide procedures designed to maintain and, in
56 some cases, restore trust between school districts and parents and
57 guardians of students;

58 (b) Bring parents and guardians into the
59 decision-making process for mental health and social-emotional
60 issues of their children at the earliest possible time in order to
61 prevent or reduce potential instances of self-harm;

62 (c) Promote communication and positive relationships
63 with parents and guardians of students that promote the best
64 outcomes for students' academic and social-emotional success; and

65 (d) Ensure timely notification to parents or guardians
66 if, during the school day or at school-related activities, their
67 student is being referred to by school employees as a gender or
68 pronoun that is different than the gender listed on the student's
69 birth certificate.

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

