

By: Representative Crawford

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1098

1 AN ACT TO DECLARE THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF PARENTS TO DIRECT
2 THE UPBRINGING OF THEIR CHILDREN; TO PROHIBIT ANY AGENCY OF THIS
3 STATE FROM INFRINGING ON THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF PARENTS; AND
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. The Legislature of Mississippi declares the
7 following:

8 (a) The United States Supreme Court has recognized that
9 parents have a fundamental right to direct the upbringing of their
10 children.

11 (b) The liberty protected by the due process clause
12 includes the fundamental right of parents to direct the education,
13 upbringing, care and control of their children.

14 SECTION 2. (1) The liberty interest of a parent in the
15 nurture, education, care, custody and control of the parent's
16 child is a fundamental right.

17 (2) No agency or officer of this state nor any agency or
18 officer of any subdivision of this state shall infringe
19 fundamental parental rights except as provided by law narrowly



20 tailored to meet a compelling governmental interest by the least
21 restrictive means.

22 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
23 and after July 1, 2025.

