

By: Representative Lott

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1294

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SCHEDULING OF SCHOOL  
2 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE STUDENT WELL-BEING AND  
3 SAFETY; TO REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFIC GUIDELINES; TO MANDATE  
4 REPORTING OF NONCOMPLIANCE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
5 AND THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature finds that:

8 (a) Extracurricular activities play a vital role in the  
9 holistic development of students;

10 (b) Balancing academics, extracurricular activities,  
11 personal life, and rest is essential for student success and  
12 well-being; and

13 (c) Bus drivers for extracurricular activities are  
14 often school personnel whose extended workdays may pose safety  
15 risks due to fatigue. The purpose of this act is to establish  
16 guidelines for scheduling school extracurricular activities to  
17 prioritize student well-being, ensure academic attendance, and  
18 enhance transportation safety.



**SECTION 2.**

(1) (a) Each school district shall adopt a policy requiring that routine district and nondistrict extracurricular activities shall be scheduled in a manner which:

(i) Ensures students attend all regular classes of academic instruction before traveling for the activity.

(ii) Requires students to be returned to their school by 10:30 p.m. on school nights. For the purposes of this section, "school night" is defined as the night preceding any day of the week in which academic instruction occurs during the course of a regular scholastic year, and shall include any required make-up days imposed by the school district for all students in enrollment.

(b) Each school district shall require all parties responsible for scheduling of extracurricular activities, including third-party schedulers with whom it has entered into agreement for the delegation of its scheduling responsibilities, to adhere to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2) The requirement to adhere to the structured scheduling of extracurricular activities under subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to:

(a) Playoff and/or championship extracurricular activities and statewide competitions in which the school is a competing party; and

(b) Extracurricular activities that involve prearranged overnight stays.



44           (3) Any occurrence of noncompliance with the guidelines in  
45 subsection (1), except as otherwise exempted under subsection (2),  
46 shall be documented with specific details of the noncompliance and  
47 the reason for the noncompliance.

48           (4) (a) Each school district shall report all documented  
49 occurrences of noncompliance to the State Department of Education  
50 on a quarterly basis.

51                   (b) The department shall compile and provide a summary  
52 of these reports to the Education Committees of the Mississippi  
53 House of Representatives and Senate on a quarterly basis.

54           (5) The department shall develop rules and regulations to  
55 implement and enforce the provisions of this act.

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

