

By: Representative Currie

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1417

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
2 ACQUIRE AND DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THE BOOK ONE MISSISSIPPI TO ALL
3 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS FOR GRADE 2 STUDENTS;
4 TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND PROVIDE A LESSON PLAN
5 TEMPLATE FOR INSTRUCTION ON THE CONTENT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE
6 BOOK; TO REQUIRE THE LESSON TO BE ADMINISTERED DURING THE NATIONAL
7 "READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK" OBSERVANCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature finds that the state song, "One
10 Mississippi," is an important cultural and historical
11 representation of the State of Mississippi. The dissemination and
12 instruction of the book, One Mississippi, which provides context
13 and history about the state song, will promote an understanding of
14 Mississippi's heritage among students and support the development
15 of civic pride.

16 **SECTION 2.** (1) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year,
17 the State Department of Education, subject to appropriation for
18 such purposes, shall acquire sufficient copies of the book, One
19 Mississippi, to distribute to all public school districts and
20 charter schools in the state, which such schools shall receive



21 enough copies to provide every student enrolled in Grade 2 with an
22 individual copy of the book.

23 (2) The department shall develop a standardized lesson plan
24 template to guide teachers in delivering instruction on the
25 content and significance of "One Mississippi." At a minimum, the
26 lesson plan template shall:

27 (a) Include instructional approaches suitable for Grade
28 2 students;

29 (b) Emphasize the historical, cultural, and civic
30 importance of the state song and its reflection of Mississippi's
31 identity; and

32 (c) Be aligned with the state's academic standards for
33 social studies and literacy.

34 (3) The instruction based on the lesson plan template shall
35 be administered annually during the national "Read Across America
36 Week" observance. School districts and charter schools shall
37 ensure that teachers adhere to the lesson plan template when
38 teaching the material.

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

