

By: Representative Manning

To: Public Health and  
WelfareHOUSE BILL NO. 100  
(As Passed the House)

1       AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-79-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE THREE OCCASIONS OF A STUDENT  
3 HAVING HEAD LICE NEED TO BE CONSECUTIVE OCCASIONS BEFORE THE  
4 HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAY PROVIDE ASSISTANCE ABOUT TREATING LICE; AND  
5 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7       SECTION 1. Section 41-79-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9       41-79-21. If a student in any public elementary or secondary  
10 school has had head lice on three (3) \* \* \* occasions during one  
11 (1) school year while attending school, or if the parent of the  
12 student has been notified by school officials that the student has  
13 had head lice on three (3) \* \* \* occasions in one (1) school year,  
14 as determined by the school nurse, public health nurse or a  
15 physician, the principal or administrator shall notify the county  
16 health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that  
17 student. The county health department then shall instruct the  
18 child's parents or guardians on how to treat head lice, eliminate  
19 head lice from household items, and prevent the recurrence of head  
20 lice. The county health department shall charge the child's  
21 parents or guardians a fee to recover its costs of providing  
22 treatment and counseling for the head lice. The school principal  
23 or administrator shall not allow the child to attend school until  
24 proof of treatment is obtained.

25       SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
26 and after July 1, 1999.