

By: Representative Dedeaux

To: Public Health and  
Welfare; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 551

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "SCHOOL NURSE INTERVENTION PROGRAM  
 2 ASSISTANCE FUND," WHICH SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE  
 3 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
 4 HEALTH SHALL ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
 5 PROVIDING GRANTS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR USE IN DEFRAYING  
 6 THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING OR MAINTAINING A SCHOOL NURSE  
 7 INTERVENTION PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY APPLY  
 8 FOR A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF NURSES  
 9 EMPLOYED BY THE DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST  
 10 MATCH THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT REQUESTED WITH AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF  
 11 FUNDS; TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY  
 12 RECEIVE DURING A FISCAL YEAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, the following words  
 15 shall have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context clearly  
 16 requires otherwise:

17 (a) "Department" means the State Department of Health.

18 (b) "Fund" means the School Nurse Intervention Program  
19 Assistance Fund.

20 (2) There is created a special fund in the State Treasury to  
 21 be designated the "School Nurse Intervention Program Assistance  
 22 Fund," which shall be administered by the department. The  
 23 department shall establish and implement a program for the purpose  
 24 of providing grants from the fund to public school districts for  
 25 use in defraying the costs of implementing a school nurse  
 26 intervention program or maintaining a school nurse intervention  
 27 program, or both, as provided in Section 41-79-5. The fund shall  
 28 consist of funds appropriated annually by the Legislature from the  
 29 Health Care Expendable Fund established under Section 43-13-407.  
 30 Unexpended amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal  
 31 year shall not lapse into the State General Fund, and any interest



32 earned or investment earnings on amounts in the fund shall be  
33 deposited into the fund.

34 (3) A public school district desiring a grant under this  
35 section must submit an application to the department. A school  
36 district may apply for a grant regardless of the number of nurses  
37 employed by the school district at the time it submits an  
38 application to the department. A school district applying for a  
39 grant must match the amount of the grant requested with an equal  
40 amount of funds. A school district may not use minimum education  
41 program funds to satisfy its match requirement. The maximum  
42 aggregate amount of grant funds a school district may receive  
43 during a fiscal year is Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

44 (4) The department shall have all powers necessary to  
45 implement and administer the program established under this  
46 section, and the department shall promulgate rules and regulations  
47 necessary for the implementation of this section.

48 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
49 and after July 1, 2001.

