

By: Representatives Martinson, Flaggs

To: Education;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 461

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
 2 ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION  
 3 IN GRADES K-3 IN ONE SCHOOL IN EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; TO  
 4 PRESCRIBE CERTAIN COMPONENTS OF THE RESEARCH-BASED READING  
 5 INSTRUCTION WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SCHOOLS'  
 6 CURRICULUM FOR GRADES K-3; TO REQUIRE STUDENTS IN THE PILOT  
 7 SCHOOLS WHO EXHIBIT READING DEFICITS TO BE PROVIDED REMEDIAL  
 8 INSTRUCTION; TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
 9 IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF  
 10 FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT TO THE  
 11 LEGISLATURE ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION  
 12 37-43-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE  
 13 BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE CERTAIN SUPPLIERS OF READING AND  
 14 LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS USED IN THE  
 15 PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A REPORT INDICATING THE THEORETICAL  
 16 FRAMEWORK OF THEIR PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS; AND FOR RELATED  
 17 PURPOSES.

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

19 **SECTION 1.** (1) The State Department of Education shall  
 20 establish a pilot program under which the curriculum of students  
 21 in Grades K-3 shall include research-based reading instruction.  
 22 The department shall select one (1) elementary school in each  
 23 congressional district to participate in the pilot program; the  
 24 various schools selected must represent urban, suburban and rural  
 25 areas of the state. The curriculum in the pilot program schools  
 26 for Grades K-3 must include the following research-based reading  
 27 instruction for each of these grades:

- 28 (a) Direct systematic intensive instruction in phonemic  
 29 awareness;
- 30 (b) Explicit instruction in sound-symbol relationships  
 31 (phonics);
- 32 (c) Ample practice in decodable texts to practice  
 33 sound-spelling relationships;



34 (d) Varied text to develop language comprehension and  
35 fluency;

36 (e) Direct systematic intensive instruction in word  
37 attack skills;

38 (f) Age-appropriate direct systematic intensive  
39 instruction in highly regular sound-spelling relationships;

40 (g) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
41 vocabulary development and enhancement of background knowledge and  
42 motivation; and

43 (h) Direct systematic intensive instruction in grammar,  
44 punctuation and capitalization.

45 (2) The kindergarten through third-grade students in the  
46 pilot schools shall be administered informal and observational  
47 assessments to diagnosis reading deficits.

48 (3) Any student who exhibits reading deficits must be  
49 provided individualized remedial instruction, in addition to the  
50 regular curriculum of reading instruction, by the school district  
51 until the student achieves a level of basic reading and reading  
52 comprehension consistent with the national average.

53 (4) Participating schools in the pilot program shall utilize  
54 research-based reading instructional materials that have  
55 accompanying professional development.

56 (5) The State Department of Education shall implement the  
57 pilot program contingent on funds available for such purpose. No  
58 state funds shall be used for this program unless specifically  
59 authorized by the Legislature for such purpose.

60 (6) The State Department of Education shall submit an annual  
61 report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of the  
62 research-based reading instruction pilot program. The report must  
63 include the test results from each school participating in the  
64 program and recommendations on remediation procedures.

65 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-43-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
66 amended as follows:



67           37-43-19. The board shall have the power and is \* \* \*  
68 authorized:

69           (a) To promulgate rules and regulations for the  
70 purchase, care, use, disposal, distribution and accounting for all  
71 books to be furnished under the terms of this chapter, and to  
72 promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary  
73 for the proper administration of this chapter.

74           (b) To adopt, contract for, and make available for  
75 purchase, cash or credit, basal, supplementary or alternative  
76 textbooks through twelve (12) grades as provided in the school  
77 curriculum, or for any other course that it may add to the school  
78 curriculum.

79           (c) To determine the period of contract for rated and  
80 adopted textbooks, which shall not be for less than four (4) years  
81 nor more than five (5) years, with the right of the board, in its  
82 discretion, to renew or extend such contract from year to year for  
83 a period not exceeding two (2) additional years and to determine  
84 the conditions of the approval or forfeiture of a contract and  
85 such other terms and conditions as may be necessary and not  
86 contrary to law.

87           (d) To have complete power and authority over additions  
88 and amendments to textbooks, advertising for bids and the contents  
89 thereof, including auxiliary materials and workbooks, advertising  
90 on the protective covers of textbooks, bids and proposals, prices  
91 of textbooks, specimen copies, cash deposits, selection and  
92 adoption, distribution, fumigation, emergencies, selling to  
93 others, return of deposits, forfeiture of deposits, regulations  
94 governing deposits, renovation and repair of books, requisition,  
95 transportation or shipment of books, and any other acts or  
96 regulations, not contrary to law, that may be deemed necessary for  
97 furnishing and loaning free textbooks to the school children, as  
98 provided in this chapter.



99                   (e) To require all suppliers of reading and language  
100 arts instructional programs and materials that are used in the  
101 schools participating in the pilot program established under  
102 Section 1 of House Bill No.           , 2002 Regular Session, which are  
103 purchased with either state funds or federal funds and which are  
104 administered by the state to provide a report indicating the  
105 theoretical framework of their programs and materials.

106           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
107 and after July 1, 2002.

