

By: Representatives Lott, Clarke, Cameron,  
Evans, Fredericks, Frierson, Ketchings,  
Martinson, Moore (60th), Robertson, Fleming

To: Education;  
Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1605

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-133, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL EMPLOY A  
3 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR K-12; TO CODIFY NEW SECTION  
4 37-13-134, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO SPECIFY THE MINIMUM  
5 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR; TO PROVIDE  
6 THAT THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS, THE  
7 MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL ON OBESITY PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT, THE TASK  
8 FORCE ON HEART DISEASE AND STROKE PREVENTION AND THE MISSISSIPPI  
9 ALLIANCE FOR SCHOOL HEALTH SHALL PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE  
10 STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE  
11 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER  
12 THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THOSE ENTITIES IN EMPLOYING THE PHYSICAL  
13 ACTIVITY COORDINATOR; TO REQUIRE THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR  
14 TO PRESENT A STATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN EACH YEAR TO THOSE  
15 ENTITIES; TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT  
16 A STUDY AND SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE EDUCATION  
17 COMMITTEES ON THE CORRELATION BETWEEN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND  
18 CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

20 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-13-133, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
21 amended as follows:

22 37-13-133. Under the provisions of Section 37-13-131, the  
23 State Department of Education may provide for the services of a  
24 School Health Services Coordinator, School Instruction  
25 Coordinator, School Environmental Specialist, \* \* \* and such other  
26 professional and nonprofessional staff as may be needed and as  
27 funds available to the department will permit. The State  
28 Department of Education, subject to the availability of funds  
29 specifically for such purpose, shall employ a physical activity  
30 coordinator K-12 not later than September 1, 2002, in accordance  
31 with the provisions of Section 37-13-134. It shall be the  
32 responsibility of that professional staff to coordinate efforts of  
33 the personnel of the State Department of Education, the state's  
34 colleges and universities, local public schools and other



35 appropriate agencies to provide the comprehensive health education  
36 curriculum.

37 **SECTION 2.** The following shall be codified as Section  
38 37-13-134, Mississippi Code of 1972:

39 37-13-134. (1) The physical activity coordinator employed  
40 under Section 37-13-133 must have the qualifications prescribed in  
41 any of the following paragraphs, which are listed in the order of  
42 preference:

43 (a) A doctorate in physical education, exercise science  
44 or a highly related field, and at least three (3) years of  
45 experience in teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in  
46 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

47 (b) A master's degree in physical education, exercise  
48 science or a highly related field, and at least five (5) years of  
49 experience in teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in  
50 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

51 (c) A bachelor's degree in physical education, a  
52 teacher's license, and at least seven (7) years of experience in  
53 teaching physical education in grades K-12 or in physical activity  
54 promotion/fitness leadership.

55 (2) The Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness and Sports  
56 created under Section 7-1-551 et seq., the Mississippi Council on  
57 Obesity Prevention and Management created under Section 41-101-1  
58 et seq., the Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention  
59 created under Section 41-103-1 et seq., the Mississippi Alliance  
60 for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and the  
61 Mississippi Alliance for School Health shall provide  
62 recommendations to the State Department of Education regarding the  
63 employment of the physical activity coordinator. The department  
64 shall consider the recommendations of those entities in employing  
65 the physical activity coordinator.

66 (3) The physical activity coordinator shall present a state  
67 physical activity plan each year to the Governor's Commission on



68 Physical Fitness and Sports, the Mississippi Council on Obesity  
69 Prevention and Management, the Task Force on Heart Disease and  
70 Stroke Prevention, and the Mississippi Alliance for School Health.

71 (4) The physical activity coordinator shall monitor the  
72 districts for adherence to current Mississippi school  
73 accountability standards and for implementation of the physical  
74 education curriculum on file with the State Department of  
75 Education.

76 **SECTION 3.** The State Department of Education shall conduct a  
77 study on the correlation between physical activity or exercise and  
78 classroom performance. The study must include recommendations for  
79 the implementation of a healthy schools program. The department  
80 shall submit a report on the results of the study, including  
81 recommendations for legislation, to the chairmen of the Education  
82 Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate before  
83 December 1, 2002.

84 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
85 and after July 1, 2002.

