

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Education;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2249

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-131, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE PHYSICAL
3 EDUCATION CLASSES IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH NINE BEGINNING
4 WITH THE 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-13-131, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-13-131. (1) The State Department of Education is
9 designated as the state agency responsible for the administration
10 and supervision of the Comprehensive School Health Education
11 Program as an educational curriculum in the State of Mississippi.
12 It is the intent of the Legislature that all funds made available
13 to the State Department of Education for the purpose of
14 comprehensive school health education shall be administered by the
15 State Department of Education.

16 (2) Pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of this
17 section, the State Department of Education is authorized to
18 establish an Office of Comprehensive School Health Education
19 within the framework of the State Department of Education for the
20 purpose of developing standards, procedures and criteria for the
21 administration and supervision of a statewide program of health
22 education in Kindergarten through Grade 12. The State Department
23 of Education, through the Office of Comprehensive School Health
24 Education, shall assume the further responsibility for promoting a
25 statewide effort designed to prepare local school faculties and
26 staffs to incorporate the comprehensive health education concept
27 into their local educational programs.



(3) The Mississippi Department of Health, in conjunction with the Office of Student Development-Branch of Health-Related Services of the State Department of Education, shall develop a long-range strategic plan for a Comprehensive School Health Education Program in Grades K through 12. The Comprehensive School Health Education Program shall encompass four (4) interdependent components: (a) health education; (b) health service; (c) physical education and fitness; and (d) a healthful school environment. These curriculum components shall be designed to develop decision-making competencies related to health and health behavior. Such curriculum components are intended to motivate health maintenance and promote wellness, not only to prevent disease or disability. The Mississippi Department of Health, in conjunction with the Office of Student Development-Branch of Health-Related Services of the Department of Education, shall develop the strategic plan and make a report thereon to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1, 1995.

(4) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, the State Board of Education shall, for purposes of accreditation, require all school districts to offer and require attendance in physical education and fitness classes in Grades K through 9.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2002.

