

By: Senator(s) Jackson (32nd)

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2974

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-16-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH STUDENT
3 TESTING PROFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR PROMOTION FOR HOME INSTRUCTION
4 PROGRAMS WHICH ARE EQUAL TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
5 STUDENTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-16-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-16-7. (1) Each district school board shall establish
10 standards for graduation from its schools which shall include as a
11 minimum:

12 (a) Mastery of minimum academic skills as measured by
13 assessments developed and administered by the State Board of
14 Education.

15 (b) Completion of a minimum number of academic credits,
16 and all other applicable requirements prescribed by the district
17 school board.

18 (2) A student who meets all requirements prescribed in
19 subsection (1) of this section shall be awarded a standard diploma
20 in a form prescribed by the state board.

21 (3) The State Board of Education may establish student
22 proficiency standards for promotion to grade levels leading to
23 graduation.

24 (4) The State Board of Education may establish student
25 testing proficiency standards for promotion to grade levels for
26 students in home instruction programs which are equivalent to
27 requirements applicable to public school students.

28 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
29 and after July 1, 2005.