

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

S. B. No. 2369: Physical education and health education programs in school districts; require certain minimum standards.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

30 SECTION 1. This act shall be known as the Mississippi
31 Healthy Students Act.

32 SECTION 2. Section 37-13-134, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
33 amended as follows:

34 37-13-134. (1) The Legislature recognizes that there is a
35 problem with Mississippi student inactivity and obesity * * *, and
36 therefore requires the following guidelines for school district
37 physical education, health education and physical activity and
38 fitness classes:

39 Kindergarten through Grade 8: One hundred fifty (150)
40 minutes per week of physical activity-based instruction and
41 forty-five (45) minutes per week of health education instruction,
42 as defined by the State Board of Education.

43 Grades 9 through 12: 1/2 Carnegie unit requirement in
44 physical education or physical activity for graduation.

45 All instruction in physical education, health education and
46 physical activity must be based on the most current state
47 standards provided by the State Department of Education.

48 (2) Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, each local
49 school board shall, consistent with regulations adopted by the
50 State Board of Education, adopt a school wellness plan which shall

51 promote a healthy lifestyle for Mississippi's school children and
52 staff. Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, the school
53 wellness plan shall also promote increased physical activity,
54 healthy eating habits and abstinence from the use of tobacco and
55 illegal drugs through programs that incorporate healthy lifestyle
56 choices into core subject areas which may be developed in
57 partnership with the Institute for America's Health.

58 (3) The Legislature shall appropriate sufficient
59 state-source funds for * * * the State Department of
60 Education * * * to employ a physical activity coordinator to
61 assist districts on current and effective practices and on
62 implementation of physical education and physical activity
63 programs.

64 (4) The physical activity coordinator employed under Section
65 37-13-133 must have the qualifications prescribed in any of the
66 following paragraphs, which are listed in the order of preference:

67 (a) A doctorate in physical education, exercise science
68 or a highly related field, and at least three (3) years of
69 experience in teaching physical education in Grades K-12 or in
70 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

71 (b) A master's degree in physical education, exercise
72 science or a highly related field, and at least five (5) years of
73 experience in teaching physical education in Grades K-12 or in
74 physical activity promotion/fitness leadership; or

75 (c) A bachelor's degree in physical education, a
76 teacher's license, and at least seven (7) years of experience in
77 teaching physical education in Grades K-12 or in physical activity
78 promotion/fitness leadership.

79 (5) The Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness and Sports
80 created under Section 7-1-551 et seq., the Mississippi Council on
81 Obesity Prevention and Management created under Section 41-101-1
82 et seq., the Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

83 created under Section 41-103-1 et seq., the Mississippi Alliance
84 for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and the
85 Mississippi Alliance for School Health shall provide
86 recommendations to the State Department of Education regarding the
87 employment of the physical activity coordinator. The department
88 shall consider the recommendations of those entities in employing
89 the physical activity coordinator.

90 (6) The physical activity coordinator shall present a state
91 physical activity plan each year to the Governor's Commission on
92 Physical Fitness and Sports, the Mississippi Council on Obesity
93 Prevention and Management, the Task Force on Heart Disease and
94 Stroke Prevention, the Mississippi Alliance for Health, Physical
95 Education, Recreation and Dance, and the Mississippi Alliance for
96 School Health.

97 (7) The physical activity coordinator shall monitor the
98 districts for adherence to current Mississippi school
99 accountability standards and for implementation of the physical
100 education curriculum on file with the State Department of
101 Education. The State Department of Education shall monitor and
102 act as a clearinghouse for the activities of the local school
103 health councils established pursuant to subsection (8) of this
104 section.

105 * * *

106 (8) (a) The local school board of each school district
107 shall establish a local school health council for each school
108 which shall ensure that local community values are reflected in
109 the local school's wellness plan to address school health. Such
110 councils shall be established no later than November 1, 2006.

111 (b) The local school health council's duties shall
112 include, but not be limited to, the following:

113 (i) Recommend age appropriate curriculum and the
114 number of hours of instruction to be provided in health and

115 physical activity-based education, provided that the number of
116 hours shall not be less than that required by Section 37-13-134;

117 (ii) Recommend appropriate practices that * * *
118 include a coordinated approach to school health * * * designed to
119 prevent obesity, cardiovascular disease, Type II diabetes and
120 other health risks, through coordination of:

- 121 1. Health education;
- 122 2. Physical education;
- 123 3. Nutritional services;
- 124 4. Parental/Community involvement;
- 125 5. Instruction to prevent the use of tobacco,
126 drugs and alcohol;
- 127 6. Physical activity;
- 128 7. Health services;
- 129 8. Healthy environment; * * *
- 130 9. Counseling and psychological services;
- 131 10. Healthy lifestyles; and
- 132 11. Staff wellness.

133 (iii) Provide guidance on the development and
134 implementation of the local school wellness plan. * * *

135 (c) The local school board shall appoint members to the
136 local school health council. At a minimum, the school board shall
137 appoint one (1) person from each of the following groups:

- 138 (i) Parents who are not employed by the school
139 district;
- 140 (ii) Public schoolteachers;
- 141 (iii) Public school administrators;
- 142 (iv) District students;
- 143 (v) Health care professionals;
- 144 (vi) The business community;
- 145 (vii) Law enforcement;
- 146 (viii) Senior citizens;

- 147 (ix) The clergy;
148 (x) Nonprofit health organizations; and
149 (xi) Faith-based organizations.

150 (9) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit
151 or limit the sale or distribution of any food or beverage item
152 through fund-raisers conducted by students, teachers, school
153 groups, or parent groups when the items are intended for sale off
154 the school campus.

155 **SECTION 3.** (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt
156 regulations as provided in this section not later than March 1,
157 2008, which shall be effective for compliance by school districts
158 beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, for the Child Nutrition
159 School Breakfast and Lunch Programs that are not in conflict with
160 the regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture
161 (USDA). The regulations shall take into account the most recent
162 and advanced scientific principles regarding good human health and
163 fitness, and the effect of the regulations must be that the good
164 health, well-being and fitness of Mississippi school children
165 shall be advanced. The regulations shall include, but not be
166 limited to, the following areas:

- 167 (a) Healthy food and beverage choices;
168 (b) Healthy food preparation;
169 (c) Marketing of healthy food choices to students and
170 staff;
171 (d) Food preparation ingredients and products;
172 (e) Minimum and maximum time allotment for students and
173 staff lunch and breakfast periods;
174 (f) The availability of food items during the lunch and
175 breakfast periods of the Child Nutrition School Breakfast and
176 Lunch Programs; and
177 (g) Methods to increase participation in the Child
178 Nutrition School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.

179 (2) To assist the State Board of Education in developing the
180 regulations required by this section, the State Superintendent of
181 Public Education shall appoint an advisory committee comprised of
182 the following members: a representative of the Office of Healthy
183 Schools of the State Department of Education; a member of the
184 State Board of Education; a licensed dietitian; a licensed
185 physician; a local public school superintendent; a director of
186 nutrition of a local public school district; a principal of a
187 local public elementary school; a member of the Senate; and a
188 member of the House of Representatives. The State Superintendent
189 shall appoint the members of the advisory committee not later than
190 April 30, 2007, and shall designate the member who will be the
191 chairman of the committee. The advisory committee shall hold its
192 first meeting not later than June 1, 2007, and shall meet at such
193 other times as necessary. The advisory committee shall make its
194 recommendations to the State Board of Education on the regulations
195 required by this section not later than October 15, 2007.

196 To effectuate the purposes of this section, upon the request
197 of the chairman of the advisory committee, any department,
198 division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state or of
199 any political subdivision of the state shall provide to the
200 committee such facilities, assistance and data that will enable
201 the committee to properly carry out its functions under this
202 section.

203 Members of the advisory committee who are not public
204 employees who live in the Jackson, Mississippi, metropolitan area
205 or a member of the Legislature shall receive per diem at the rate
206 authorized by Section 25-3-69 for attending meetings of the
207 committee, and shall be reimbursed in accordance with Section
208 25-3-41 for mileage and actual expenses incurred in the
209 performance of their duties. The legislative member of the
210 committee shall be paid from the contingent expense fund of the

211 house of which he or she is a member in the same manner as
212 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in
213 session; however, no per diem or expense for attending meetings of
214 the committee may be paid while the Legislature is in session. A
215 committee member may not incur per diem, travel or other expenses
216 unless previously authorized by vote, at a meeting of the
217 committee, which action must be recorded in the official minutes
218 of the meeting. Nonlegislative members will be paid from funds
219 available to the State Department of Education or from any other
220 funds made available to the committee for that purpose.

221 (3) Local school districts may adopt rules and regulations
222 that may be more stringent but not in conflict with those adopted
223 by the State Board of Education under this section.

224 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
225 and after July 1, 2007, except for Section 3, which shall take
226 effect and be in force from and after the passage of this act.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE MISSISSIPPI HEALTHY STUDENTS ACT;
2 TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-134, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE A
3 MINIMUM PERIOD OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY-BASED INSTRUCTION AND A
4 MINIMUM PERIOD OF HEALTH EDUCATION INSTRUCTION IN GRADES K-8, AS
5 DEFINED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE ONE-HALF OF A
6 CARNEGIE UNIT IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN GRADES
7 9-12 FOR GRADUATION; TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE 2008-2009
8 SCHOOL YEAR, THE SCHOOL WELLNESS PLANS OF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS
9 SHALL PROMOTE INCREASED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, HEALTHY EATING HABITS
10 AND ABSTINENCE FROM THE USE OF TOBACCO AND ILLEGAL DRUGS; TO
11 REQUIRE THE APPROPRIATION OF SUFFICIENT STATE-SOURCE FUNDS FOR THE
12 STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EMPLOY A PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
13 COORDINATOR TO ASSIST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
14 PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATUTORY DUTIES
15 OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL HEALTH COUNCILS SHALL BE MANDATORY RATHER THAN
16 PERMISSIVE; TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT
17 REGULATIONS, FOR COMPLIANCE BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS BEGINNING WITH THE
18 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR, THAT ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING AREAS: HEALTHY
19 FOOD AND BEVERAGE CHOICES; HEALTHY FOOD PREPARATION; MARKETING OF
20 HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES TO STUDENTS AND STAFF; FOOD PREPARATION
21 INGREDIENTS AND PRODUCTS; MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM TIME ALLOTMENT FOR
22 STUDENTS AND STAFF LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PERIODS; THE AVAILABILITY
23 OF FOOD ITEMS DURING THE LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PERIODS; AND METHODS
24 TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN THE CHILD NUTRITION SCHOOL BREAKFAST
25 AND LUNCH PROGRAMS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
26 PUBLIC EDUCATION SHALL APPOINT AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ASSIST THE

27 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN DEVELOPING THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED BY
28 THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)
Chaney

X (SIGNED)
Gordon

X (SIGNED)
Harden

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)
Brown

X (SIGNED)
Reeves

X (SIGNED)
Myers