

March 18, 2013

TO THE MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE:

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE FOR SENATE BILL 2141

I am returning Senate Bill Number 2141: "AN ACT TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE SELECTION AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS IN MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE FOR A REPORT TO THE 2014 REGULAR SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES." without my approval, and assign the following reasons for my veto.

In my January address to a joint session of the Legislature, I called for passage of meaningful and comprehensive education reform. The work of both chambers has been laudable, and I believe we are within weeks of truly transformational change. For that, I thank you.

Senate Bill 2141 began as an attempt to elect all school boards but has come to my desk as yet another study committee. Mississippi does not need more studies. It needs reform. Accordingly, I am vetoing Senate Bill 2141 and will work with the Senate and House to pass a bill in next year's legislative session that achieves its original intent.

Respectfully submitted,

PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR