

By: Representatives Porter, Hines

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 356

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-41-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS TO BE TRAINED AND CERTIFIED IN FIRST
3 AID AND CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR); AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-41-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-41-1. (1) The State Board of Education is authorized,
9 empowered and directed to promulgate rules and regulations
10 relating to the transportation of students enrolled in the public
11 school districts, including rules and regulations for:

12 (a) Setting standards for public school district bus
13 routes;

14 (b) Setting standards for public school district buses;

15 (c) Setting standards for public school district bus
16 drivers;

17 (d) Formulating procedure for selecting public school
18 district bus drivers;



19 (e) Formulating courses of training for public school
20 district bus drivers and mechanics, and assist in administering
21 and financing such courses;

22 (f) Providing operation procedure for public school
23 district buses to insure safety of pupils;

24 (g) Formulating specifications for use in purchasing
25 public school district buses; getting bids on public school
26 district buses; equipment and supplies; and fixing prices based
27 upon said bids which school districts may not exceed in purchasing
28 said equipment;

29 (h) Formulating specifications for use by school
30 districts in purchasing used school buses; and

31 (i) Providing a system of records and reports for the
32 purpose of carrying out the provisions of Sections 37-41-1 through
33 37-41-51, and providing the superintendent of schools with a
34 sufficient supply of report forms.

35 All rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the
36 State Board of Education relating to school district bus drivers
37 shall also be applicable to drivers of privately owned buses
38 transporting public school district children.

39 All rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the
40 State Board of Education pursuant to the authority conferred by
41 this section shall be spread at large upon the minutes of the
42 State Board of Education and copies thereof shall be furnished to



43 all school boards not less than thirty (30) days prior to the
44 effective date of such rules and regulations.

45 Except for subsection (2) of this section, the provisions of
46 this chapter are applicable to school districts and the
47 transportation of students enrolled in public school districts.
48 Charter schools authorized by the Mississippi Charter School
49 Authorizer Board are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

50 (2) The driver of every school transportation vehicle used
51 to transport pupils must be trained and certified in first aid and
52 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The State Board of Education
53 and Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board shall enforce this
54 subsection.

55 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after July 1, 2024.

