

By: Representative Sanford

To: Education; Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1402

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-616, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
 2 TO PROHIBIT SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS FROM STOPPING IN A LOCATION OF
 3 LIMITED VISIBILITY OR HAVING AN OBSTRUCTED VIEW UPON STREET OR
 4 HIGHWAY WHEN RECEIVING OR DISCHARGING SCHOOL CHILDREN; TO CLARIFY
 5 WHAT A LOCATION WITH LOW VISIBILITY OR AN OBSTRUCTED VIEW MEANS;
 6 TO PROVIDE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS WITH THE DISCRETION TO RECEIVE OR
 7 DISCHARGE A CHILD IN HIS OR HER DRIVEWAY UPON A DETERMINATION BY
 8 THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER THAT DOING SO ON A STREET OR HIGHWAY
 9 PRESENTS A SAFETY HAZARD FOR THE CHILD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-3-616, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 12 amended as follows:

13 63-3-616. (1) A school bus driver, for the purpose of
 14 preventing being overtaken when receiving or discharging any
 15 school children, may stop on a street or highway blocking the two
 16 (2) outermost right lanes, regardless of the number of lanes on
 17 the street or highway. For a two-lane street or highway, this
 18 provision allows for blocking both lanes. Such school bus driver
 19 may only block both of these lanes during the time that the school
 20 bus is receiving or discharging any school children.



21 (2) (a) A school bus driver, when making a stop on a street
22 or highway for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school
23 children, shall not cause the bus to stop upon said street or
24 highway in a location with low visibility or an obstructed view so
25 as to impede the drivers of approaching the school bus from the
26 opposite direction or traveling in the same direction as the
27 school bus of the presence of the school bus. For purposes of
28 this subsection a "location with low visibility or an obstructed
29 view" means any area upon said street or highway that:

30 (i) Is created by the natural topography of the
31 landscape that prevents a clear line of sight over or around such
32 topography;

33 (ii) Is created by the design or travel path of
34 the street or highway that prevents a clear line of sight; and

35 (iii) Does not give a reasonable driver adequate
36 time to visualize the school bus and to come to a complete stop
37 without violating Section 63-3-615.

38 (b) If the distance of the designated bus stop upon a
39 street or highway, which is in a location with low visibility or
40 an obstructed view, is determined by the school bus driver too
41 great of a distance to a child's residence and the location
42 presents a hazard for the safe receipt or discharge of a child
43 from the school bus, the driver of the school bus may exit the
44 street or highway enter upon the private driveway of the child's
45 residence to receive or discharge the child, provided there is



46 ample clearance to do so safely and without substantial delay to
47 the completion of the bus route.

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

