

Mississippi Professional Educators (MPE): 2019 Legislative Bill Tracker

Bills signed by the Governor

Bill	Companion Bill	Short Title	Author of Bill	Description	Action (as of 3:00 p.m. 2/7/2019)

Bills Under Consideration

HB 37		Public School Donation Tax Deduction and Dedicated Use Act; create.	Rep. Jay Hughes	Provides state income tax deduction for contributions made by a taxpayer to a public school district.	Referred to House Education and House Ways and Means
HB 102		Bonds; authorize issuance to provide funds to school districts for vocational education improvements.	Rep. Donnie Bell	Authorizes the issuance of state general obligation bonds to provide funds for the MDE to make funding available to school districts for the the enhancement of vocational and technical education programs	Referred to House Ways and Means
HB 145		Appropriation; Department of Education for new program to make funding available to school districts for enhancing vocational education programs.	Rep. Donnie Bell	Appropriates funds to MDE to make funding available to school districts for the the enhancement of vocational and technical education programs	Referred to House Appropriations
HB 150		Mississippi Dyslexia Forgivable Loan Program; clarify type of service committee to qualify for.	Rep. Larry Byrd	Authorizes loan forgiveness to individuals providing instructional or clinical service as a licensed Dyslexia Therapist in a public or eligible private schools for the Mississippi Dyslexia Forgivable Loan Program.	Passed House Education; Passed House Appropriations
HB 398		Patriotic societies; authorize principal to allow to speak to the student body on importance of civic duty.	Rep. Donnie Scoggin	Allows school principals to permit representatives from patriotic societies to speak to the student body regarding civic involvement.	Passed House Education
HB 401		"Small Town Teacher Tax Credit Act"; create to authorize an income tax credit to certain licensed teachers.	Rep. Jarvis Dortch	Authorizes a refundable income tax credit for licensed teachers with at least three years of consecutive service with a school district in a geographic location defined as "small town"	Referred to House Education and House Ways and Means
HB 572		Educator use of personal leave; authorize use of by employees on certain days in the event of death or funeral of an immediate family member.	Rep. Philip Gunn	Allows an educator to take personal leave on the day before the first day of school, the last day of school, the day before a holiday or the day after a holiday in the event of death or funeral of an immediate family member.	Amended and passed House Education; passed House
HB 576		State and School Health Insurance Management Board; authorize State Superintendent of Public Education to designate individual to serve on.	Rep. Richard Bennett	Amends current law to clarify the composition of the state ABD School Employees Health Insurance Management Board and allows the State Superintendent of Public Education to designate individual to serve on the board.	Passed House Education; passed House
HB 578	SB 2482	Teacher and administrator licenses; clarify grounds for disciplinary action and reinstatement.	Rep. Richard Bennett	Clarifies the membership of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development and establishes procedures for disciplinary action and reinstatement.	Amended and Passed House Education; passed House

Bill	Companion Bill	Short Title	Author of Bill	Description	Action (as of 3:00 p.m. 2/7/2019)
HB 623		School districts; exempt those with "A" and "B" accountability ratings from certain duties.	Rep. Philip Gunn	Exempts school districts with "A" and "B" accountability ratings from performing certain duties imposed on school districts and requires the State Board of Education to develop a grant program exclusively for school districts with "A" and "B" accountability ratings to receive funds for the implementation of innovative educational programs.	Amended and Passed House Education; passed House
HB 634	SB 2579	Tax Credit Scholarship Act; create.	Rep. Dana Criswell	Provides a tax credit for qualified students who use a scholarship from certain organizations to cover eligible educational expenses.	Referred to House Education and House Ways and Means
HB 654		County school board trustees; require runoff election if no candidate receives majority of votes cast.	Rep. Noah Sanford	Provides that in a race for local county board of education, the candidate in each supervisors district who receives the majority of votes shall be declared the winner and provides regulations for a runoff if neither candidate receives the majority of votes cast in the election.	Passed House Education
HB 688	SB 2866	Districts of Innovations; require SDE to recognize use of Cambridge Assessment or other nationally recognized assessment for purposes of school accountability designations.	Rep. Nick Bain	Requires the State Department of Education to acknowledge students performance in schools within districts of innovation that administer the Cambridge Assessment or other nationally recognized assessment for the purpose of assigning district and school accountability ratings.	Amended and Passed House Education
HB 689		MS School for the Deaf; authorize creation of nonprofit entity for fundraising activities.	Rep. Noah Sanford	Authorizes the State Board of Education to create a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of engaging in fund raising activities at the MS School for the Deaf, The MS School for the Blind, and the State Department of Education.	Amended and Passed House Education
HB 723		Nuclear High School Academy; authorize certain school district to enter into partnership for the establishment of.	Rep. Gary Staples	Authorizes Vicksburg Warren School District and Claiborne County Board of Education to establish a partnership with Entergy to offer career exploration and internships within the Entergy Grand Gulf Nuclear Station and to provide a Nuclear High School Academy for students.	Amended and Passed House Education
HB 816		Income tax; authorize deduction for certain income earned by recent college graduates.	Rep. Trey Lamar	Provides a rebate to recent MS college graduates who remain a resident of the state for five years equal to all or a portion of the qualified individual's state income tax liability. Public or nonpublic school teachers who participate in the program may receive a rebate equate to the full amount of their state income tax liability during the five-year period.	Amended and passed House Ways and Means; passed House
HB 1074		School district superintendents; clarify duty to submit reports of unlawful activity to SDE as well as law enforcement.	Rep. Carolyn Crawford	School superintendents must report any unlawful activity occurring on educational property or occurring during school related activities to local law enforcement and the State Department of Education.	Passed House Education
HB 1116	SB 2050	School enrollment; allow for children with documentation of a parent's pending military relocation to the state.	Rep. Mac Huddleston	Allows students whose parents are in the military to enroll in a Mississippi school district based upon the parent's military orders for relocation to our state. The parent must provide proof of legal residence within ten days of arrival.	Passed House Education
HB 1151		"Critical Needs Teacher Forgivable loan Program"; delete automatic repealer on and other applicable provisions.	Rep. Willie Bailey	Amends and deletes the automatic repealer established on the "Critical Needs Teacher Forgivable Loan Program," the purpose of which is to attract qualified teachers to those geographical areas of the state and those subject areas of the curriculum where there exists a critical shortage of teachers by awarding forgivable loans to persons declaring an intention to serve in the teaching field.	Passed House Education; amended and passed House
HB 1182		Corporal punishment; prohibit use of in public schools to discipline a student with a disability.	Rep. Carolyn Crawford	Prohibits the use of corporal punishment in public schools to discipline a student with a disability who has an IEP or a Section 504 plan.	Passed House Education

Bill	Companion Bill	Short Title	Author of Bill	Description	Action (as of 3:00 p.m. 2/7/2019)
HB 1246	SB 2484	Mississippi Teacher Leadership Program; establish to provide stipend to teacher assuming leadership positions while remaining in the classroom.	Rep. Richard Bennett	Creates the Mississippi Teacher Leadership Program which provides stipends to those teacher leaders who mentor and support beginning teachers.	Passed House Education
HB 1247		Community college districts boards of trustees; remove requirement for automatic appointment of county superintendent of education to serve on.	Rep. Richard Bennett	Removes the requirement that the county superintendent of education automatically serves as a member of the board of a community college district and allows community college districts the right to appoint the county superintendent or another qualified elector from the county at large.	Referred to House Universities & Colleges; Passed House Education
HB 1283		The "Mississippi School Safety Act of 2019"; enact.	Rep. Mark Baker	Requires school districts to develop and conduct an active shooter drill within the first 60 days of each new school semester for students and staff. Requires all school district employees to attend civilian response to active shooter events training annually.	Passed House Education; amended and passed House
HB 1317		Dual enrollment; require community colleges to provide first 15 credit hours free of charge to juniors and seniors	Rep. Manly Barton	Requires community colleges, subject to state funding, to waive tuition and fees for the first 15 semester credit hours taken in a dual enrollment program by high school juniors and seniors and limits the inclusion of dually enrolled students in a district's ADA to those who have earned 15 or less semester credit hours	Amended and passed House Appropriations
HB 1321		MS Speech-language Therapy Scholarship Program; revise various provisions.	Rep. Rob Roberson	Removes the limitation on scholarships for the MS Speech-language Therapy Scholarship program to students in kindergarten through sixth grade and revises the application process.	Amended and Passed House Education
HB 1322	SB 2685	Eye examinations; SBE to require all children six and younger to have comprehensive face-to-face before enrolling in public school for first time.	Rep. Rob Roberson	Requires children 6 years old and younger to have a face-face comprehensive eye exam before entering a public school for the first time.	Amended and Passed House Education; Passed House Public Health and Human Services
HB 1344		Mississippi Critical Needs School District Tax Credit Act of 2019; create.	Rep. Jeramey Anderson	Creates the Mississippi Critical Needs School District Tax Credit Program to attract first-year teachers to critical shortage areas by providing tax incentives to them. Participating teachers must commit to provide four years of service to the district.	Referred to House Ways and Means
HB 1349	SB 2770	"Mississippi Great Teachers Act of 2019"; enact to incentive individuals to enter teaching profession and address critical teacher shortage.	Rep. Charles Busby	"Mississippi Great Teachers Act of 2019," includes several initiatives designed to address the state's teacher shortage, including a \$1,000 pay raise for teachers implemented over two years, a pay raise for teachers assistants, and allows retired teachers to return to work and continue to receive their state retirement benefits.	Amended and Passed House Education
HB 1400		School transportation; authorize motor vehicles other than buses for small groups of students traveling to school activities.	Rep. Joey Hood	Authorizes local school boards to allow motor vehicles other than school buses to be used to transport small groups of students for school-related activities.	Passed House Education
SB 2050	HB 1116	School enrollment; allow for children with documentation of a parent's pending military relocation to the state.	Sen. Chuck Younger	Allows students whose parents are in the military to enroll in a Mississippi school district based upon the parent's military orders for relocation to our state. The parent must provide proof of legal residence within ten days of arrival.	Passed Senate Education
SB 2092		Natchez-Adams Special Municipal Separate School District; elect members of school board.	Sen. Bob Dearing	Requires the Board of Trustees of the Natchez-Adams School District to be elected	Passed Senate Education

Bill	Companion Bill	Short Title	Author of Bill	Description	Action (as of 3:00 p.m. 2/7/2019)
SB 2097		Educational expenses at qualified private schools; individual income tax credits for.	Sen. Michael Watson	Provides a state income tax deduction for educational expenses by parents who send their children or dependents to a qualified private school or a homeschool program.	Referred to Senate Finance
SB 2173		Mississippi Educational Improvement Tax Credit Act of 2019"; establish.	Sen. Michael Watson	Establishes an Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program to provide financial assistance to low and middle income families seeking educational options for their children.	Referred to Senate Finance
SB 2250		Income tax; authorize credit for expenditures for participation of a child in a private education program.	Sen. Angela Hill	Authorizes an income tax credit in the amount of the unreimbursed educational expenditures made by a taxpayer in connection with the enrollment of a dependent child in a private education program or homeschooling environment..	Referred to Senate Finance
SB 2446		Appropriation FY2020; State Board of Education for State Department of Education Early Learning Collaborative	Sen. Brice Wiggins	Appropriates funds to MDE for early learning collaboratives	Referred to Senate Appropriations
SB 2447		Career and technical grants to schools for qualified students; provide for	Sen. Gray Tollison	Provides CTE grants through MDE and the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) to schools for students who earn qualifying industry certifications	Passed Senate Education; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2449		Education of students in juvenile detention facilities; define responsibility of home school district.	Sen. Gray Tollison	Defines responsibility of home school district and the sponsoring school district to provide education for students in juvenile detention facilities; requires local school districts to provide student records; and, requires summer courses focusing on math and language arts for juvenile detention facility students	Passed Senate Education; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2456		Ad valorem tax; exempt one vehicle per teacher in shortage areas, and discount tax on one vehicle per teacher in other areas	Sen. John Horhn	Exempts from ad valorem taxes one vehicle owned by a state-licensed teacher employed by a critical shortage district and provides a 50% discount off the ad valorem taxes on a motor vehicle owned by a state-licensed teacher in any other public school district	Referred to Senate Finance and Senate Education
SB 2482	HB 578	Teacher and administrator licenses; clarify grounds for disciplinary action and reinstatement.	Sen. Gray Tollison	Clarifies the membership of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development and establishes procedures for disciplinary action and reinstatement.	Passed Senate Education
SB 2505		Teacher Forgivable Loan Program; available to nontraditional licensed teachers under certain conditions.	Sen. Gray Tollison	Provides that awards granted under the William Winter Teacher Forgivable Loan Program be available to nontraditional licensed teachers under certain conditions	Passed Senate Education; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2579	HB 634	Tax Credit Scholarship; enact to provide qualifying students eligibility to use to cover eligible education expenses.	Sen. Joey Fillingane	Creates the "Tax Credit Scholarship Act" which provides tax credit for qualified students who use a scholarship from certain organizations to cover eligible educational expenses.	Referred to Senate Finance
SB 2625		Mississippi School of the Arts; provide for administration and clarify employee hiring procedures.	Sen. Sally Doty	Provides that administrative and instructional employees at the MS School of the Arts be contract employees; provides that noninstructional employees serve at the will and pleasure of the school superintendent; and, provides that the purchases of equipment and commodities made by the school are exempt from the regulations of the Public Procurement Law	Amended and passed Senate Education; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2675		Education Scholarship Account (ESA) program; revise.	Sen. Gray Tollison	As introduced, expanded eligibility for Educational Scholarship Accounts (i.e. vouchers) to all students and extended the repealer from 2020 to 2024. Amended in committee to only extend the repealer from 2020 to 2024.	Amended and Passed Senate Education

Bill	Companion Bill	Short Title	Author of Bill	Description	Action (as of 3:00 p.m. 2/7/2019)
SB 2685	HB 1322	Comprehensive eye examination for students prior to enrollment; require	Sen. Gray Tollison	Requires a comprehensive eye exam for all students prior to entering or enrolling for the first time in public school	Amended and Passed Senate Education; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2732		Student Financial Aid; repeal discontinued grant and forgivable loan programs.	Sen. Josh Harkins	Repeals several programs, including the Assistant Teacher Forgivable Loan Program, the Teaching Fellows Program, and the Teacher Education Alternate Route Certification Scholars Program	Passed Senate Universities & Colleges; passed Senate Appropriations
SB 2749		State Board for Community and Junior Colleges; revise the qualifications for board members	Sen. Josh Harkins	Removes the current prohibition that no member of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges shall be engaged in the educational profession	Passed Senate Universities & Colleges
SB 2770	HB 1349	Teachers' salaries; provide for \$1,000.00 increase phased in over two years.	Sen. Gray Tollison	Provides for a \$500 teacher pay raise in 2019-2020 and another \$500 raise in 2020-2021 for a total of \$1,000 over the course of two years and increases the minimum salary for assistant teachers by \$1,000 over the course of two years.	Passed Senate Education
SB 2866	HB 688	Districts of Innovation; require SDE to recognize use of Cambridge Assessment for purposes of accountability rating.	Sen. Rita Parks	Requires the State Department of Education to acknowledge student performance in schools within Districts of Innovation that administer the Cambridge Assessment or other nationally recognized assessments to determine student proficiency for the purpose of assigning school and district accountability ratings.	Passed Senate Education

Bills That Have Died

HB 1181		Mississippi Employer-Assisted Housing Teacher Program; require that it be administered in conjunction with any conforming loan.	Rep. Jeffrey Smith	Requires the State Department of Education to partner with any conforming loan company to provide assistance in implementing and administering the Mississippi Employer-Assisted Housing Teacher Program.	Passed House Education; sent to House Ways & Means
SB 2481	HB 1246	Teacher shortage in Mississippi; establish Teacher Leadership Program and Teacher Credentialing and Retention Grant Program.	Sen. Gray Tollison	Creates the Mississippi Teacher Leadership Program which provides stipends to those teacher leaders who mentor and support beginning teachers.	Passed Senate Education; Died in Senate Appropriations