

2018 Legislative Summary

2018 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Mississippi School Boards Association
Legislative Update and School Law Review
April 24, 2018



We are here for you!



House Bills

- 1,701 bills introduced in the House
- 194 bills assigned to Education
- 1 bill assigned to Appropriations
- 16 bills assigned to Ways & Means
- 2 bills signed into law

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Senate Bills

- 1,087 bills introduced in the Senate
- 114 bills assigned to Education
- 3 bills assigned to Appropriations
- 12 bills assigned to Finance
- 1 bill signed into law

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MSBA Legislative Priorities

- MSBA Surveys All Board Members and Superintendents
- Each Board Returns One Completed Survey
- MSBA Tabulates and Identifies the Top Four Issues and Determines Issues to Support and Oppose

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Fully Fund Public Education

- HB 1592, the K-12 Funding Bill, passed with a \$12.5 million increase from last year.
- The bill includes over \$25 million for the School Recognition Program.

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Fully Fund Public Education

- At least 8 other bills were introduced that in some way dealt with MAEP funding.
- They all **died**.

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Fully Fund Public Education

- HB 957 which would have rewritten MAEP, passed the House on a vote of 66 Yeas and 54 Nays.
- In the Senate a motion was made to recommit the bill to the Education Committee. It passed on a vote of 27 yeas and 21 nays.

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All School Boards Adopt a Board Member Code of Conduct

- No bills were introduced to require school boards to adopt a code of conduct.

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Changing Average Daily Attendance (ADA) to Total Enrollment (ADM)

- No bills were introduced that dealt with changing from ADA to ADM.
- HB 957 included language making this change

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Create a Structured Statewide Early Childhood Education

- At least nine bills that dealt with mandatory kindergarten and/or preschool were introduced, and several attempts were made to amend legislation to include mandatory kindergarten.
- They all **died**.

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Support

1. Increase school board member compensation
 - One bill was introduced to increase school board member compensation and remove prohibition on membership in PERS.
 - It **died** in committee.

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Oppose

2. Electing/appointing all school board members at the same time
3. Restricting local control of school boards
4. Allowing student vouchers to be funded with public funds

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Oppose

5. Allowing income tax deduction for parents who send their children to private school or who home school
6. Allowing tax credit scholarships providing scholarships to non-public schools

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Oppose

7. Allowing students attending a C, D, or F school to transfer to an A or B school
8. Allowing money to be diverted from public schools to non-public schools, home schools, or virtual schools

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Oppose

9. Allowing public charter schools into A, B, and C School Districts
10. Mandating the start and end of school year

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Bills that Passed

- HB 807** School property; exempt requirement for automatic reverter when property is conveyed to the United States
- HB 1592** Appropriation; Education, Department of
- SB 2763** Mississippi Virtual Public School Program; provider chosen by districts under Mississippi Online Course Application Process

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