



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **House Champions Education Freedom and Flexibility**

Jackson, MS – Speaker Jason White issues the following statement on seven key education bills passing out of the House Education Committee.

“As of today’s legislative committee deadline, the House Education Committee has advanced seven bills that finally give parents, not the government, real options for their child’s education while also bringing transparency and needed reforms for our current systems.

The House’s education priorities in this session directly align with President Trump’s “Expanding Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families” Executive Order, which promotes the idea of school choice, allowing families to select educational settings that best fit their children, thereby improving overall student outcomes and success. President Trump’s Executive Order states, “When our public education system fails such a large segment of society, it hinders our national competitiveness and devastates families and communities.” In Mississippi, we must prioritize our children’s future by empowering parents to ensure that every child has access to a quality education. Our education system should work for our parents and children, not the other way around.

The seven bills now on the House floor for consideration are:

1. HB 1078 Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Act: ESA Reform
2. HB 1431 The Education Efficiency Act: Path to Consolidation
3. HB 1432 Charter School Reform
4. HB 1433 The FREE Act (Flexible and Rightful Education Enrollment): School Choice
5. HB 1434 AGENTS of Excellence (Aeronautics, Geospatial, Engineering, Nursing and Technical Skills): Campus Schools
6. HB 1435 The FLEX Act (Families Leading the Enrollment Experience): Portability
7. HB 1439 Accountability Dashboard Program

By championing these seven key bills, we can provide families the freedom to select the best educational environment for their children. Implementing school choice enhances individual student achievement and fosters healthy competition among schools, driving improvements across the board. This approach has gained traction in several states, showcasing that when families can direct their children’s education, we see positive outcomes that benefit students, families, and communities alike. All of Mississippi’s surrounding southern states offer some form of enrollment progress. We constantly talk about competing with our neighboring states—this is an opportunity to be advantageous and further turn Mississippi’s competitive dial towards economic attractiveness.

Following last session’s historic education investment and funding formula rewrite with INSPIRE, Education Chairman Rob Roberson and Representatives Kent McCarty and Jansen Owen have been working diligently and with great dedication to create an education landscape in Mississippi that ensures every child has the opportunity to thrive. By focusing the House’s efforts on meaningful education policy, we can build a stronger future for our state and its most valuable resource—our children.”

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