
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: **SB 2249**
DATE 4/9/02
CC: FILE

SB 2249

SB 2249 requires MDE, subject to availability of funds, to employ a Physical Activity Coordinator for K-12 no later than 60 days after receipt of such funds. Until such time that state funds can be appropriated, it is the intention of the Legislature that MDE shall make application for any federal funds available to implement this recommendation. The Physical Activity Coordinator must meet specified educational criteria, submit a state plan, and monitor the districts for adherence to current Mississippi school accountability standards and for implementation of the physical education curriculum. SB 2249 also declares the Legislature's recommendation of the following guidelines for school district physical education and fitness classes:

Grades K-6: 30 minutes per day
Grades 7-9: 2 hours per week

SB 2249 also requires MDE to conduct a study on correlation between physical activity and exercise and classroom performance. The study must include recommendations for implementation of a healthy schools program. MDE is to submit a report on the results of the study, including any recommendations for legislation, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees before December 1, 2002.

SB 2249 is effective July 1, 2002.

You spoke on the importance of physical education and this legislation at a press conference early in the session. I recommend that you sign SB 2249.