
**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: **HB 494**
DATE: 4/10/02
CC: FILE

HB 494

HB 494 amends current law to delete the repealer that authorizes local school districts to provide extended day and extended school year programs and to adopt policies with regard to instruction. In addition, the bill:

- Permits school districts to expend funds from any available source for the purpose of defraying the cost of student field trips to public or private nonprofit museums, including the cost of admission to museums;
- Clarifies the authority of school districts to enter into contracts or agreements with persons or entities, public or private, to provide training, certification and/or professional development activities for district employees (NOTE: This is required, but the State Auditor's Office has questioned the practice in the past, so the School Boards Association requested this clarification); and,
- Clarifies that the Mississippi School Boards Association shall offer continuing education for school board members.

HB 494 is effective July 1, 2002.

The School Boards Association supports this bill and worked out compromise language with MDE for the bill.

I recommend that you sign HB 494.