

By: Senator(s) DeBar

To: Education;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2715

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-139-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO RELOCATE THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TO
3 THE CAMPUS OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY BY THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL
4 YEAR; TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL
5 COLLABORATE WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF
6 HIGHER LEARNING TO FACILITATE THE RELOCATION; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD
7 TO PRESENT A PLAN RELATED TO THE RELOCATION OF THE SCHOOL TO THE
8 LEGISLATURE BY THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD
9 TO ENSURE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE
10 COLLABORATES WITH THE STARKVILLE OKTIBBEHA CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
11 DISTRICT, AS NEEDED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

13 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-139-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
14 amended as follows:

15 37-139-3. (1) There is hereby created the Mississippi
16 School for Mathematics and Science which shall be a residential
17 school for eleventh and twelfth grade high school students * * *.

18 (2) The school shall be governed by the State Board of
19 Education.

20 (3) * * * Beginning July 1, 2024, the State Board of
21 Education shall develop a plan relating to the closing of the
22 school's campus located at the Mississippi University for Women,



23 and the reopening, the operation and the funding of the school as
24 it is moved to the campus of Mississippi State University. Such
25 plan shall be presented to the Legislature during the * * * 2025
26 Regular Session and shall include an equitable and reasonable plan
27 for student recruitment without regard to race, creed or color.
28 By the 2026-2027 school year, the Mississippi School for
29 Mathematics and Science shall be established on the campus of
30 Mississippi State University. The State Board of Education shall
31 collaborate with the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of
32 Higher Learning to facilitate the provisions of this subsection.

33 (4) The purpose of the school shall be to educate the gifted
34 and talented students of the state, and its curriculum and
35 admissions policies shall reflect such purpose.

36 (5) The State Board of Education shall prepare the annual
37 budget for the school.

38 (6) The State Board of Education shall ensure that the
39 Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science collaborates with
40 the Starkville-Oktibbeha Consolidated School District, as needed.

41 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after July 1, 2024.

