

# Public Education Funding



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## Mississippi State Constitution

(Current Law)

**Section 201. Free Public Schools.** "The Legislature shall, by general law, provide for the establishment, maintenance and support of free public schools upon such conditions and limitations as the Legislature may prescribe."

### Initiative Measure No. 42

**Section 201. Educational opportunity for public school children** "To protect each child's fundamental right to educational opportunity, the State shall provide for the establishment, maintenance and support of an adequate and efficient system of free public schools. The chancery courts of this State shall have the power to enforce this section with appropriate injunctive relief."

**BALLOT TITLE:** Should the State be required to provide for the support of an adequate and efficient system of free public schools?

**BALLOT SUMMARY:** Initiative Measure No. 42 would protect each child's fundamental right to educational opportunity through the 12th grade by amending Section 201 of the Mississippi Constitution to require that the State must provide and the legislature must fund an adequate and efficient system of free public schools. This initiative would also authorize the chancery courts of this State to enforce this section with appropriate injunctive relief.

### Alternative Measure No. 42A

**Section 201.** "The Legislature shall, by general law, provide for the establishment, maintenance and support of an effective system of free public schools."

**BALLOT TITLE:** Should the Legislature provide for the establishment and support of effective free public schools without judicial enforcement?

**BALLOT SUMMARY:** This constitutional amendment is proposed as a legislative alternative measure to Initiative Measure No. 42 and would require the Legislature to provide, by general law, for the establishment, maintenance and support of an effective system of free public schools.