

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
6 Raymond Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314

Below is a copy of a bill now pending in the Mississippi State Legislature which is clearly an attempt by that state to keep the Freedom Schools, planned this summer for 25 areas in the state, from functioning. It is important also to note that this bill is only the latest in a series of bills which have been introduced (five of which are now law) -- all designed to deny 1st amendment freedoms embodied in the U.S. Constitution -- and also designed to curb voter registration activity on the part of civil rights workers there.

Governor Johnson has already signed into law five bills which prohibit picketing, ban the distribution of boycott literature, allow cities to extend police aid to other municipalities, permit cities to restrict the movements of groups and to set curfews, and provide for increased penalties for the violation of city ordinances.

SENATE BILL # 1969

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT ALL PERSON, GROUPS OF PERSONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND CORPORATIONS CONDUCTING A SCHOOL WITHIN A COUNTY SHALL SECURE A LICENSE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION THEREOF.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION I: Any person, groups of persons, associations and corporations conducting a school in any county within this state shall first apply to the county superintendent of education thereof for a license to conduct such school. If after due examination, said county superintendent of education shall determine the said school to be in fact for bonafide educational purposes, that said school does not intend to counsel and encourage disobedience to the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the conduct of said school is in the public interest, he shall forthwith issue a license to the persons, groups of persons, associations or corporations applying for same.

SECTION II: Should any person, groups of persons, associations or corporations conduct any type school without obtaining a license as herein-before provided, they shall, together with any individuals acting as professors, teachers, or instructors in said school, be guilty of a misdemeanor which shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 and/or confinement in the county jail for a period of not less than 30 days nor more than six months.

SECTION III: This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.