**New Resources for Implementing House Bill 999**

Schools across the state are preparing to implement either abstinence-only or abstinence-plus policies this school year. House Bill 999 references the teaching of related state laws. This must be included as part of the HB 999 related instruction for Abstinence Plus and may be included for Abstinence Only programs.

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) and the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) have worked together to provide resources to meet this requirement. A list of all related state laws with summaries may be found on the MDE Healthy Schools web page under “HB 999 Resources”.

MDE is also offering lesson plans that will assist in teaching the related state laws. The lesson plans may be found on the Health In Action website located on the MDE website <https://www.mdek12.org/OHS> under Healthy Schools. Instructors may log into the Health In Action site and click on grades 6-8 or 9-12 to access the lesson plans. The plans are titled *The Mississippi Code and Criminal Law* and are numbered 1341 for 9-12 grades and 1364 for 6-8 grades. Lesson references and a student worksheet are included with the lesson plans. For more information concerning these lesson plans or the Health In Action website, contact the Office of Healthy Schools at (601) 359-1737.