

JACKSON, Miss. (May 9, 2015) – Mississippi Supreme Court justices will hear arguments June 9 about Initiative 42 and the fake alternative passed by the Legislature earlier this year.

The 10 a.m. hearing in Jackson is open to the public.

The court will consider issues on both sides of an appeal by Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves and House Speaker Philip Gunn, joined by Gov. Phil Bryant, that challenges an April decision by a circuit court judge about the alternative's wording.

“Why do these state officials continue to fight against our children's future?” asked Oxford mother Adrian Shipman, who challenged the Legislature's alternative wording because she considered it confusing and not different enough from Initiative 42 to help voters decide which to vote for.

Nearly 200,000 Mississippians signed petitions in 2014 to put Initiative 42 on the Nov. 3, 2015 ballot. Its passage would require the Legislature to fully fund its promised share of K-12 funding, which it has done only twice since the law was passed in 1997.