

By: Representative Flaggs

To: Education;  
Appropriations

## HOUSE BILL NO. 30

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS UNDER THE MINIMUM  
2 EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYING SCHOOL SOCIAL  
3 WORKERS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year,  
6 the State Department of Education shall allot sufficient funding  
7 under the minimum education program to each school district for  
8 the purpose of employing school social workers.

9 (2) The State Department of Education shall determine the  
10 amount of the additional allotment for employing a school social  
11 worker or workers, considering the needs of school districts, as  
12 indicated by records of the State Department of Education and the  
13 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services  
14 which reflect incidences of crime and violence.

15 (3) The State Department of Education may increase the  
16 number of social worker positions funded each year as money is  
17 made available.

18 (4) Any individual employed by a school district with funds  
19 allotted pursuant to this section must be appropriately licensed  
20 as a social worker under Sections 73-53-1 through 73-53-29. The  
21 State Department of Education shall specify which license a social  
22 worker must hold as a qualification to being employed in a  
23 position funded under this section.

24 (5) To qualify for minimum program funding, school social  
25 workers must be full-time professional personnel and must spend at  
26 least seventy-five percent (75%) of their work time in a direct  
27 relationship with students. School social workers may not devote

28 more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the work day to  
29 administrative activities related to their social work.

30 (6) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a school district  
31 from employing social workers with local funds.

32 (7) The State Department of Education may adopt rules and  
33 regulations regarding the activities of the school social workers.

34 School social workers may perform those services that are not  
35 inconsistent with such rules and regulations.

36 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
37 and after July 1, 1999.