

By: Representative Flaggs

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 186

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI TEACHER CENTER TO CONDUCT A
2 STUDY ON WAYS TO EFFECTIVELY RECRUIT AND RETAIN AFRICAN-AMERICAN
3 TEACHERS; TO REQUIRE THE CENTER TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT
4 DETAILING ITS FINDINGS TO THE 2000 LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. The Mississippi Teacher Center shall conduct a
8 study on the recruitment of African-American teachers for the
9 purpose of identifying factors that have a negative impact on the
10 number of African-Americans in the teaching profession and
11 exploring various means to increase the number of
12 African-Americans in licensed teaching positions. The study shall
13 include, but not be limited to, the following components:

14 (a) A statement of the number of African-Americans
15 holding licensed teaching positions compared to the total number
16 of licensed teachers in Mississippi;

17 (b) An analysis of the affect of various factors on the
18 number of African-American teachers, including: state
19 demographics; admission requirements to teacher education programs
20 in the state; teacher licensing requirements; teachers' salaries;
21 and any other influences deemed pertinent by the Mississippi
22 Teacher Center;

23 (c) Recommendations for a minority recruiting program
24 that exposes African-American students at the grade school level
25 to the idea of a career in teaching;

26 (d) Recommendations for a program that would encourage
27 African-American assistant teachers to become licensed teachers;

28 and

29 (e) Recommendations for an effective process for hiring
30 and retaining African-American licensed teachers, from within
31 state and out of state, and persons who exhibit potential for a
32 career in teaching.

33 Before January 10, 2000, the Mississippi Teacher Center shall
34 submit a written report detailing the results of its study and
35 recommending any legislation necessary for the implementation of
36 its proposals to the Legislature.

37 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after its passage.