

By: Representative Cameron

To: Education;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 326

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CREATE THE WORLD CLASS TEACHERS PROGRAM AND TO PRESCRIBE THE
3 COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 37-19-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 37-19-7. (1) The allowance in the minimum education program
8 for teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
9 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
10 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
11 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
12 allotted. For teachers holding the following types of licenses or
13 the equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, and
14 the following number of years of teaching experience, the scale
15 shall be as follows:

16 **1999-2000 School Year**

17 **and School Years Thereafter**

18 **Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience**

19	AAAA.....	\$24,445.00
20	AAA.....	23,595.00
21	AA.....	22,745.00
22	A.....	21,695.00

23 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

24	AAAA.....	\$25,445.00
25	AAA.....	24,595.00
26	AA.....	23,745.00
27	A.....	22,695.00

28 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made
29 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the
30 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall
31 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal
32 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of
33 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority
34 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to
35 establish, administer and maintain the system.

36 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a
37 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no
38 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any
39 school year during which the local supplement paid to any
40 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that
41 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties
42 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school
43 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health
44 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the
45 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered
46 a part of the amount of individual local supplement.

47 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base
48 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
49 Six Hundred Fifty-five Dollars (\$655.00) for each year of teaching
50 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
51 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

52 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base
53 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
54 Five Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$590.00) for each year of teaching
55 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
56 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

57 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay
58 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five
59 Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$520.00) for each year of teaching
60 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
61 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

62 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay
63 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four
64 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$425.00) for each year of teaching
65 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
66 person shall have twenty-one (21) years of teaching experience.

67 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used
68 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each
69 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license
70 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current
71 school year.

72 (2) Prior to April 15 of any school year in which a teacher
73 meets the standard requirements, any licensed teacher who shall
74 have met the requirements and acquired a Master Teacher
75 certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching
76 Standards and who is employed by a local school board or the State
77 Board of Education as a teacher and not as an administrator shall
78 receive a salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars
79 (\$6,000.00) in addition to any other compensation to which the
80 teacher may be entitled. The teacher shall be reimbursed one (1)
81 time for the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring
82 the Master Teacher certificate, regardless of whether or not the
83 process resulted in the award of the Master Teacher certificate.
84 All such salary supplements and process reimbursement shall be
85 paid directly by the State Department of Education to the local
86 school district and shall be in addition to its minimum education
87 program allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with
88 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education, and
89 subject to appropriation by the Legislature. Local school
90 districts shall not reduce the local supplement paid to any
91 teacher receiving such salary supplement, and the teacher shall
92 receive any local supplement to which teachers with similar
93 training and experience are otherwise entitled.

94 (3) (a) The World Class Teachers Program is created to
95 support Mississippi teachers in their efforts to become certified

96 by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

97 (b) The World Class Teachers Program contains the
98 following components:

99 (i) A system for recruiting and screening
100 participants;

101 (ii) A systematic program of training and
102 technical assistance; and

103 (iii) Multiple routes for participants to provide
104 services to the state as repayment for inclusion in the program.

105 (c) In order to initiate the program, sufficient
106 funding shall be appropriated by the Legislature. Policies and
107 practices that define the relationship of the Mississippi World
108 Class Teachers Program to the Mississippi Teacher Center shall be
109 established.

110 (d) The purposes of the program are:

111 (i) To create an avenue for rewarding excellence
112 in teaching;

113 (ii) To establish a pool of master teachers who
114 can serve as mentors, supervising teachers, or in a variety of
115 leadership roles;

116 (iii) To positively influence programs of teacher
117 education as colleges strive to have their graduates gain National
118 Board Certification; and

119 (iv) To encourage master teachers to stay in the
120 profession in Mississippi.

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