

By: Representative Frierson

To: Education;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 695  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND  
3 ENTITIES TO PAY THE PROCESS COST FOR TEACHERS APPLYING FOR  
4 CERTIFICATION BY THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING  
5 STANDARDS AND TO BE REIMBURSED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
6 EDUCATION FOR SUCH COST REGARDLESS OF THE SUCCESS OF THE APPLICANT  
7 AND TO INCREASE TEACHERS' SALARIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

20 **1999-2000 School Year**

21 **and School Years Thereafter**

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

23	AAAA.....	\$ <u>25,480.00</u>
24	AAA.....	<u>24,630.00</u>

25	AA.....	<u>23,780.00</u>
26	A.....	<u>22,730.00</u>
27	<b>25 or More Years of Teaching Experience</b>	
28	AAAA.....	<u>\$26,480.00</u>
29	AAA.....	<u>25,630.00</u>
30	AA.....	<u>24,780.00</u>
31	A.....	<u>23,730.00</u>

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

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

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

56 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base

57 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
58 Five Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$590.00) for each year of teaching  
59 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
60 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

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

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

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

76 (2) (a) Prior to April 15 of any school year in which a  
77 teacher meets the standard requirements, any licensed teacher who  
78 shall have met the requirements and acquired a Master Teacher  
79 certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching  
80 Standards and who is employed by a local school board or the State  
81 Board of Education as a teacher and not as an administrator shall  
82 receive a salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars  
83 (\$6,000.00) in addition to any other compensation to which the  
84 teacher may be entitled. The teacher shall be reimbursed one (1)  
85 time for the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring

86 the Master Teacher certificate, regardless of whether or not the  
87 process resulted in the award of the Master Teacher certificate.  
88 However, a local school district or any private individual or  
89 entity may pay the cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
90 Master Teacher certificate for any teacher employed in the  
91 district, and the local school district shall be reimbursed such  
92 cost by the State Department of Education, regardless of whether  
93 or not the process resulted in the award of the Master Teacher  
94 certificate. If a private individual or entity has paid the cost  
95 of completing the process of acquiring the Master Teacher  
96 certificate for a teacher, the local school district may agree to  
97 directly reimburse the individual or entity for such cost on  
98 behalf of the teacher. All such salary supplements and process  
99 reimbursement shall be paid directly by the State Department of  
100 Education to the local school district and shall be in addition to  
101 its minimum education program allotments and not a part thereof in  
102 accordance with regulations promulgated by the State Board of  
103 Education, and subject to appropriation by the Legislature. Local  
104 school districts shall not reduce the local supplement paid to any  
105 teacher receiving such salary supplement, and the teacher shall  
106 receive any local supplement to which teachers with similar  
107 training and experience are otherwise entitled.

108 (b) The State Department of Education may not pay any  
109 process reimbursement to a school district for a teacher who does  
110 not complete the certification process required to be eligible for  
111 a Master Teacher certificate. If a teacher for whom such cost has  
112 been paid in full or in part by a local school district or private  
113 individual or entity fails to complete the certification process,  
114 the teacher shall be liable to the school district or individual

115 or entity for all amounts paid by the school district or  
116 individual or entity on behalf of that teacher toward his or her  
117 certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching  
118 Standards.

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