

By: Representative Stringer

To: Education;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 789

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL SALARY SUPPLEMENT
2 TO SCHOOL COUNSELORS ACQUIRING THE NATIONAL CERTIFIED SCHOOL
3 COUNSELOR ENDORSEMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. A school counselor employed by a local school
6 board or the State Board of Education as a counselor who acquires
7 the National Certified School Counselor endorsement from the
8 National Board for Certified Counselors shall receive an annual
9 salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars
10 (\$6,000.00) from the state. If the counselor acquires the
11 endorsement before April 15, the supplement shall be paid
12 beginning with the school year in which the endorsement is
13 received; however, if the endorsement is not received before April
14 15, the salary supplement shall begin with the school year
15 following the school year during which the endorsement is
16 acquired. The salary supplement shall be in addition to all other
17 compensation to which the counselor is entitled. The counselor
18 shall be reimbursed one (1) time for the actual cost of completing
19 the process of acquiring the National Certified School Counselor
20 endorsement, regardless of whether or not the specific process
21 resulted in the award of the National Certified School Counselor

22 endorsement. Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, the
23 State Department of Education shall pay the salary supplement
24 directly to the local school district. A local school district
25 may not reduce the salary paid to a counselor receiving a salary
26 supplement under this section, and the counselor shall receive any
27 local supplement to which counselors with similar training and
28 experience in that district otherwise are entitled.

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