

By: Representative Manning

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1253  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
2 EDUCATION TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE CERTIFICATION  
3 PROCESSES OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING  
4 STANDARDS AND OTHER NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR  
5 EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD TO SUBMIT A REPORT  
6 OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE BEFORE THE  
7 2000 SESSION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. The State Superintendent of Public Education  
10 shall appoint a committee to study the Master Teacher  
11 certification program of the National Board for Professional  
12 Teaching Standards and any similar national certification or  
13 professional recognition programs for school counselors, social  
14 workers, speech pathologists and audiologists, school nurses,  
15 vocational and technical instructors and any other professional,  
16 nonadministrative school employees. The committee shall be  
17 comprised of employees of the State Department of Education, a  
18 representative from the primary association or organization in  
19 Mississippi representing the education professionals named in this  
20 section and representatives of such other organizations deemed  
21 appropriate by the State Board of Education. The committee shall  
22 review the requirements for certification or professional  
23 recognition under the various national programs and shall assess  
24 whether the national certification or professional recognition is  
25 an appropriate indicator of the professional's ability and quality  
26 of service to the school.

27 Before November 1, 1999, the committee shall submit a written  
28 report of its findings to the Education Committees of the House of

29 Representatives and the Senate. The report shall include: a  
30 comparison of the certification or professional recognition  
31 requirements of the various national programs; recommendations on  
32 whether or not the state should offer incentives for the education  
33 professionals to seek the national certification or professional  
34 recognition available to their specific profession;  
35 recommendations on the appropriate amount of any financial  
36 incentives; and such other information deemed relevant by the  
37 State Board of Education.

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