

By: Senator(s) Ferris

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2157

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-211, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO COMPENSATE MENTOR TEACHERS
3 FOR ADDITIONAL DUTIES PERFORMED UNDER THE BEGINNING TEACHER
4 SUPPORT PROGRAM, TO GRANT ADDITIONAL RELEASE TIME FOR SUCH MENTOR
5 TEACHERS AND TO EMPLOY SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR ASSUMING THE
6 REGULAR TEACHING DUTIES OF MENTOR TEACHERS; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 37-9-211, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 37-9-211. (1) The selection, nature and extent of duties of
12 mentor teachers shall be determined by the school district. The
13 following guidelines shall apply:

14 (a) No teacher shall be designated as a mentor teacher
15 unless willing to perform in that role;

16 (b) No mentor teacher shall participate in the
17 evaluation of beginning teachers;

18 (c) Each mentor teacher shall complete successfully a
19 training workshop provided or approved by the Mississippi Teacher
20 Center prior to participating in the beginning teacher support
21 program;

22 (d) If a mentor teacher receives additional release
23 time to support a beginning teacher, it is expected that the total
24 workload of other teachers regularly employed by the school
25 district should not increase in any substantial manner.

26 (2) Any local school district shall be authorized (a) to
27 compensate mentor teachers from any available funds for additional
28 duties to support a beginning teacher which are performed after

29 regular school hours, (b) to grant additional release time to
30 mentor teachers for additional duties to support a beginning
31 teacher which are performed after regular school hours, and (c) to
32 employ and compensate substitute teachers from any available funds
33 for assuming the regular teaching duties of mentor teachers who
34 are participating in the beginning teacher program.

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