

By: Senator(s) Tollison

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2331

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-13-87, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL
3 ATTENDANCE ENFORCEMENT TO APPOINT AN OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR WHO
4 SHALL ESTABLISH A JUVENILE INTERVENTION PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL
5 DISTRICT, TO PRESCRIBE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR,
6 TO PROVIDE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERVENTION PROGRAM AND TO
7 PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE SALARY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR; AND
8 FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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11 SECTION 1. Section 37-13-87, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
12 amended as follows:

13 37-13-87. (1) The Director of the Office of Compulsory
14 School Attendance Enforcement shall employ three (3) school
15 attendance officer supervisors, each to maintain an office within
16 a different Supreme Court district. Each supervisor shall be
17 responsible for the enforcement of the Mississippi Compulsory
18 School Attendance Law within his district and shall exercise
19 direct supervision over the school attendance officers in the
20 district. The supervisors, who shall report to the director of
21 the office, shall assist the school attendance officers in the
22 performance of their duties as established by law or otherwise.

23 (2) No person having less than eight (8) years combined
24 actual experience as a school attendance officer, school teacher,
25 school administrator, law enforcement officer possessing a college
26 degree with a major in a behavioral science or a related field,
27 and/or social worker in the state shall be employed as a school
28 attendance officer supervisor. Further, a school attendance
29 officer supervisor shall possess a college degree with a major in
30 a behavioral science or a related field or shall have actual
31 experience as a school teacher, school administrator, law

32 enforcement officer possessing such degree or social worker;
33 however, these requirements shall not apply to persons employed as
34 school attendance officers before January 1, 1987. School
35 attendance officers shall meet any additional qualifications
36 established by the State Personnel Board for school attendance
37 officers or school attendance officer supervisors. The school
38 attendance officer supervisors shall receive an annual salary to
39 be set by the State Superintendent of Public Education, subject to
40 the approval of the State Personnel Board.

41 (3) The Director of the Office of Compulsory School
42 Attendance Enforcement may appoint an office administrator to
43 supervise and direct the school attendance officers in his or her
44 district. If an office administrator is appointed, the director
45 shall establish a juvenile intervention program pursuant to the
46 requirements for the adult pretrial intervention program, set
47 forth in Section 99-15-101 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as
48 amended. The office administrator shall assist school attendance
49 officers in coordinating juvenile prevention, treatment and
50 rehabilitation programs, such as, but not limited to, in- and
51 out-patient drug counseling, conflict resolution meetings,
52 parenting classes for juveniles and their parents, juvenile jail
53 tours, mentor programs, victim impact panels and prisoner panels.
54 Participation in any intervention programs established shall not
55 be limited to juveniles found in violation of this section. The
56 office administrator may accept into the program juveniles
57 pursuant to order of the youth court and juveniles referred to the
58 program by parental consent. The salary of the office
59 administrator shall be the same as that of a school attendance
60 officer set forth in Section 37-13-89. The salary may be
61 supplemented by administrative fees paid by the intervention
62 program participant. However, the maximum salary of the office
63 administrator shall not exceed that of a district attorney's
64 investigator set forth in Section 25-31-10(5), Mississippi Code of
65 1972, as amended. The duties of the office administrator shall
66 not be limited to those set forth in this section.

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