

*****Pending***
AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO**

House Bill NO. 471

By Senator(s) Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

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

23 **[From and after July 1, 1999, and until July 1, 2000, Section**
24 **37-19-7 will read as follows:]**

25 37-19-7. (1) The allowance in the minimum education program
26 for teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
27 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
28 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
29 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
30 allotted. For teachers holding the following types of licenses or
31 the equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, and
32 the following number of years of teaching experience, the scale
33 shall be as follows:

34 1999-2000 School Year * * *

35 Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience

36 AAAA.....	<u>\$25,795.00</u>
37 AAA.....	<u>24,945.00</u>
38 AA.....	<u>24,095.00</u>
39 A.....	<u>23,045.00</u>

40 25 or More Years of Teaching Experience

41 AAAA.....	<u>\$26,795.00</u>
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42	AAA.....	<u>25,945.00</u>
43	AA.....	<u>25,095.00</u>
44	A.....	<u>24,045.00</u>

45 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made
46 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the
47 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall
48 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal
49 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of
50 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority
51 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to
52 establish, administer and maintain the system.

53 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a
54 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no
55 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any
56 school year during which the local supplement paid to any
57 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that
58 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties
59 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school
60 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health
61 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the
62 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered a
63 part of the amount of individual local supplement.

64 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base
65 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
66 Seven Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$715.00) for each year of teaching
67 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
68 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

69 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base
70 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
71 Six Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$645.00) for each year of teaching
72 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
73 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

74 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay

75 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five
76 Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$570.00) for each year of teaching
77 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
78 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

79 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay
80 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four
81 Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$470.00) for each year of teaching
82 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
83 person shall have twenty-one (21) years of teaching experience.

84 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used
85 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each
86 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license
87 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current
88 school year.

89 (2) Prior to April 15 of any school year in which a teacher
90 meets the standard requirements, any licensed teacher who shall
91 have met the requirements and acquired a Master Teacher
92 certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching
93 Standards and who is employed by a local school board or the State
94 Board of Education as a teacher and not as an administrator shall
95 receive a salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars
96 (\$6,000.00) in addition to any other compensation to which the
97 teacher may be entitled. The teacher shall be reimbursed one (1)
98 time for the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring
99 the Master Teacher certificate, regardless of whether or not the
100 process resulted in the award of the Master Teacher certificate.
101 All such salary supplements and process reimbursement shall be
102 paid directly by the State Department of Education to the local
103 school district and shall be in addition to its minimum education
104 program allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with
105 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education, and
106 subject to appropriation by the Legislature. Local school
107 districts shall not reduce the local supplement paid to any

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108 teacher receiving such salary supplement, and the teacher shall
109 receive any local supplement to which teachers with similar
110 training and experience are otherwise entitled.

111 [From and after July 1, 2000, Section 37-19-7 will read as
112 follows:]

113 37-19-7. (1) The allowance in the minimum education program
114 for teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
115 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
116 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
117 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
118 allotted. For teachers holding the following types of licenses or
119 the equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, and
120 the following number of years of teaching experience, the scale
121 shall be as follows:

122 2000-2001 School Year and School Years Thereafter

123 Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience

124	AAAA.....	\$27,695.00
125	AAA.....	26,845.00
126	AA.....	25,995.00
127	A.....	24,945.00

128 25 or More Years of Teaching Experience

129	AAAA.....	\$28,695.00
130	AAA.....	27,845.00
131	AA.....	26,995.00
132	A.....	25,945.00

133 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made
134 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the
135 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall
136 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal
137 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of
138 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority
139 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to
140 establish, administer and maintain the system.

141 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a
142 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no
143 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any
144 school year during which the local supplement paid to any
145 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that
146 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties
147 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school
148 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health
149 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the
150 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered a
151 part of the amount of individual local supplement.

152 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base
153 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
154 Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00) for each year of teaching
155 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
156 person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching experience.

157 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base
158 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
159 Seven Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$720.00) for each year of teaching
160 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
161 person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching experience.

162 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay
163 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six
164 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$635.00) for each year of teaching
165 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
166 person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching experience.

167 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay
168 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five
169 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$525.00) for each year of teaching
170 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
171 person shall have twenty-two (22) years of teaching experience.

172 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used
173 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each

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174 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license
175 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current
176 school year.

177 (2) Prior to April 15 of any school year in which a teacher
178 meets the standard requirements, any licensed teacher who shall
179 have met the requirements and acquired a Master Teacher
180 certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching
181 Standards and who is employed by a local school board or the State
182 Board of Education as a teacher and not as an administrator shall
183 receive a salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars
184 (\$6,000.00) in addition to any other compensation to which the
185 teacher may be entitled. The teacher shall be reimbursed one (1)
186 time for the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring
187 the Master Teacher certificate, regardless of whether or not the
188 process resulted in the award of the Master Teacher certificate.
189 All such salary supplements and process reimbursement shall be
190 paid directly by the State Department of Education to the local
191 school district and shall be in addition to its minimum education
192 program allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with
193 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education, and
194 subject to appropriation by the Legislature. Local school
195 districts shall not reduce the local supplement paid to any
196 teacher receiving such salary supplement, and the teacher shall
197 receive any local supplement to which teachers with similar
198 training and experience are otherwise entitled.

199 SECTION 2. Section 37-19-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
200 amended as follows:

201 [From and after July 1, 1999, and until July 1, 2000, Section
202 37-19-21 will read as follows:]

203 37-19-21. In addition to other funds allowed in this
204 chapter, each school district shall be allotted Five Thousand
205 Seventy-six Dollars (\$5,076.00) annually per teacher unit for use
206 in supportive services.

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207 [From and after July 1, 2000, Section 37-19-21 will read as
208 follows:]

209 37-19-21. In addition to other funds allowed in this
210 chapter, each school district shall be allotted Five Thousand Six
211 Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$5,645.00) annually per teacher unit
212 for use in supportive services.

213 This section shall stand repealed from and after July 1,
214 2002.

215 SECTION 3. Section 37-21-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
216 amended as follows:

217 **[From and after July 1, 1999, and until July 1, 2000, Section**
218 **37-21-7 will read as follows:]**

219 37-21-7. (1) This section shall be referred to as the
220 "Mississippi Elementary Schools Assistant Teacher Program," the
221 purpose of which shall be to provide an early childhood education
222 program that assists in the instruction of basic skills. The
223 State Board of Education is authorized, empowered and directed to
224 implement a statewide system of assistant teachers in kindergarten
225 classes and in the first, second and third grades. The assistant
226 teacher shall assist pupils in actual instruction under the strict
227 supervision of a licensed teacher.

228 (2) (a) Each school district shall employ the total number
229 of assistant teachers funded under subsection (6) of this section.

230 The superintendent of each district shall assign the assistant
231 teachers to the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade
232 classes in the district in a manner that will promote the maximum
233 efficiency, as determined by the superintendent, in the
234 instruction of skills such as verbal and linguistic skills,
235 logical and mathematical skills, and social skills.

236 (b) If a licensed teacher to whom an assistant teacher
237 has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the
238 assistant teacher may assume responsibility for the classroom in
239 lieu of a substitute teacher. However, no assistant teacher shall

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240 assume sole responsibility of the classroom for more than three
241 (3) consecutive school days. Further, in no event shall any
242 assistant teacher be assigned to serve as a substitute teacher for
243 any teacher other than the licensed teacher to whom that assistant
244 teacher has been assigned.

245 (3) Assistant teachers shall have, at a minimum, a high
246 school diploma or shall have successfully completed the General
247 Educational Development (GED) test and shall show demonstratable
248 proficiency in reading and writing skills. The State Department
249 of Education shall develop a testing procedure for assistant
250 teacher applicants to be used in all school districts in the
251 state.

252 (4) (a) In order to receive funding, each school district
253 shall:

254 (i) Submit a plan on the implementation of a
255 reading improvement program to the State Department of Education;
256 and

257 (ii) Develop a plan of educational accountability
258 and assessment of performance, including pretests and posttests,
259 for reading in Grades 1 through 6.

260 (b) Additionally, each school district shall:

261 (i) Provide annually a mandatory preservice
262 orientation session, using an existing in-school service day, for
263 administrators and teachers on the effective use of assistant
264 teachers as part of a team in the classroom setting and on the
265 role of assistant teachers, with emphasis on program goals;

266 (ii) Hold periodic workshops for administrators
267 and teachers on the effective use and supervision of assistant
268 teachers;

269 (iii) Provide training annually on specific
270 instructional skills for assistant teachers;

271 (iv) Annually evaluate their program in accordance
272 with their educational accountability and assessment of

273 performance plan; and

274 (v) Designate the necessary personnel to supervise
275 and report on their program.

276 (5) The State Department of Education shall:

277 (a) Develop and assist in the implementation of a
278 statewide uniform training module, subject to the availability of
279 funds specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, which
280 shall be used in all school districts for training administrators,
281 teachers and assistant teachers. The module shall provide for the
282 consolidated training of each assistant teacher and teacher to
283 whom the assistant teacher is assigned, working together as a
284 team, and shall require further periodical training for
285 administrators, teachers and assistant teachers regarding the role
286 of assistant teachers;

287 (b) Annually evaluate the program on the district and
288 state level. Subject to the availability of funds specifically
289 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the department shall
290 develop: (i) uniform evaluation reports, to be performed by the
291 principal or assistant principal, to collect data for the annual
292 overall program evaluation conducted by the department; or (ii) a
293 program evaluation model that, at a minimum, addresses process
294 evaluation; and

295 (c) Promulgate rules, regulations and such other
296 standards deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
297 section. Noncompliance with the provisions of this section and
298 any rules, regulations or standards adopted by the department may
299 result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards as
300 established by the State Board of Education and Commission on
301 School Accreditation.

302 (6) The allowance in the minimum education program for
303 assistant teacher salaries in each school district shall be
304 determined and paid in accordance with the scale for assistant
305 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number

306 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
307 as prescribed in Section 37-19-5 allotted for Grades 1, 2 and 3.
308 For assistant teachers holding the following qualifications as
309 determined by the local school district, the minimum scale shall
310 be as follows:

311 1999-2000 School Year

312 Bachelor's degree..... \$9,745.00
313 Sixty (60) credit hours, or more,
314 undergraduate coursework..... 8,995.00
315 High school diploma, or the equivalent..... 8,895.00

316 For assistant teachers holding a bachelor's degree, the
317 minimum base pay specified in this subsection shall be increased
318 by the sum of One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00) for each year
319 of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person holding
320 such degree until such person shall have fifteen (15) years of
321 assistant teaching experience.

322 For assistant teachers holding sixty (60) credit hours, or
323 more, undergraduate coursework, the minimum base pay specified in
324 this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Eighty Dollars
325 (\$80.00) for each year of assistant teaching experience possessed
326 by the person holding such degree until such person shall have ten
327 (10) years of assistant teaching experience.

328 For assistant teachers holding a high school diploma, or the
329 equivalent, the minimum base pay specified in this subsection
330 shall be increased by the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each
331 year of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person
332 holding such degree until such person shall have five (5) years of
333 assistant teaching experience.

334 The local school district shall require an official
335 transcript of the undergraduate coursework possessed by the
336 assistant teacher for purposes of determining his salary under the
337 minimum scale prescribed herein.

338 No assistant teacher shall be paid less than the amount he or

339 she received in the prior school year. In the 1995-1996 school
340 year and school years thereafter, no school district shall receive
341 any funds under this section for any school year during which the
342 aggregate amount of the local contribution to the salaries of
343 assistant teachers by the district shall have been reduced below
344 such amount for the previous year. The assistant teachers shall
345 not be restricted to working only in the grades for which the
346 funds were allotted, but may be assigned to other classes as
347 provided in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

348 (7) (a) As an alternative to employing assistant
349 teachers, * * * any school district is authorized to use the
350 minimum program allotment provided under subsection (6) of this
351 section for the purpose of employing licensed teachers for
352 kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade classes; however, no
353 school district shall be authorized to use the minimum program
354 allotment for assistant teachers for the purpose of employing
355 licensed teachers unless the district has established that the
356 employment of licensed teachers using such funds will reduce the
357 teacher:student ratio in the kindergarten, first-, second- and
358 third-grade classes. All minimum program funds for assistant
359 teachers shall be applied to reducing teacher:student ratio in
360 Grades K-3.

361 It is the intent of the Legislature that no school district
362 shall dismiss any assistant teacher for the purpose of using the
363 minimum program assistant teacher allotment to employ licensed
364 teachers. School districts may rely only upon normal attrition to
365 reduce the number of assistant teachers employed in that district.
366 Nothing herein shall prevent the reassignment of an assistant
367 teacher to another position for comparable compensation for which
368 the assistant teacher is qualified.

369 (b) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5
370 accreditation requirements, the State Board of Education, in its
371 discretion, may exempt such school district from any accreditation

372 requirements for the district's early childhood education program
373 or reading improvement program.

374 [From and after July 1, 2000, and until July 1, 2002, Section
375 37-21-7 will read as follows:]

376 37-21-7. (1) This section shall be referred to as the
377 "Mississippi Elementary Schools Assistant Teacher Program," the
378 purpose of which shall be to provide an early childhood education
379 program that assists in the instruction of basic skills. The
380 State Board of Education is authorized, empowered and directed to
381 implement a statewide system of assistant teachers in kindergarten
382 classes and in the first, second and third grades. The assistant
383 teacher shall assist pupils in actual instruction under the strict
384 supervision of a licensed teacher.

385 (2) (a) Each school district shall employ the total number
386 of assistant teachers funded under subsection (6) of this section.
387 The superintendent of each district shall assign the assistant
388 teachers to the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade
389 classes in the district in a manner that will promote the maximum
390 efficiency, as determined by the superintendent, in the
391 instruction of skills such as verbal and linguistic skills,
392 logical and mathematical skills, and social skills.

393 (b) If a licensed teacher to whom an assistant teacher
394 has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the
395 assistant teacher may assume responsibility for the classroom in
396 lieu of a substitute teacher. However, no assistant teacher shall
397 assume sole responsibility of the classroom for more than three
398 (3) consecutive school days. Further, in no event shall any
399 assistant teacher be assigned to serve as a substitute teacher for
400 any teacher other than the licensed teacher to whom that assistant
401 teacher has been assigned.

402 (3) Assistant teachers shall have, at a minimum, a high
403 school diploma or shall have successfully completed the General
404 Educational Development (GED) test and shall show demonstratable

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405 proficiency in reading and writing skills. The State Department
406 of Education shall develop a testing procedure for assistant
407 teacher applicants to be used in all school districts in the
408 state.

409 (4) (a) In order to receive funding, each school district
410 shall:

411 (i) Submit a plan on the implementation of a
412 reading improvement program to the State Department of Education;
413 and

414 (ii) Develop a plan of educational accountability
415 and assessment of performance, including pretests and posttests,
416 for reading in Grades 1 through 6.

417 (b) Additionally, each school district shall:

418 (i) Provide annually a mandatory preservice
419 orientation session, using an existing in-school service day, for
420 administrators and teachers on the effective use of assistant
421 teachers as part of a team in the classroom setting and on the
422 role of assistant teachers, with emphasis on program goals;

423 (ii) Hold periodic workshops for administrators
424 and teachers on the effective use and supervision of assistant
425 teachers;

426 (iii) Provide training annually on specific
427 instructional skills for assistant teachers;

428 (iv) Annually evaluate their program in accordance
429 with their educational accountability and assessment of
430 performance plan; and

431 (v) Designate the necessary personnel to supervise
432 and report on their program.

433 (5) The State Department of Education shall:

434 (a) Develop and assist in the implementation of a
435 statewide uniform training module, subject to the availability of
436 funds specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, which
437 shall be used in all school districts for training administrators,

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438 teachers and assistant teachers. The module shall provide for the
439 consolidated training of each assistant teacher and teacher to
440 whom the assistant teacher is assigned, working together as a
441 team, and shall require further periodical training for
442 administrators, teachers and assistant teachers regarding the role
443 of assistant teachers;

444 (b) Annually evaluate the program on the district and
445 state level. Subject to the availability of funds specifically
446 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the department shall
447 develop: (i) uniform evaluation reports, to be performed by the
448 principal or assistant principal, to collect data for the annual
449 overall program evaluation conducted by the department; or (ii) a
450 program evaluation model that, at a minimum, addresses process
451 evaluation; and

452 (c) Promulgate rules, regulations and such other
453 standards deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
454 section. Noncompliance with the provisions of this section and
455 any rules, regulations or standards adopted by the department may
456 result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards as
457 established by the State Board of Education and Commission on
458 School Accreditation.

459 (6) The allowance in the minimum education program for
460 assistant teacher salaries in each school district shall be
461 determined and paid in accordance with the scale for assistant
462 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
463 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
464 as prescribed in Section 37-19-5 allotted for Grades 1, 2 and 3.
465 For assistant teachers holding the following qualifications as
466 determined by the local school district, the minimum scale shall
467 be as follows:

	<u>2000-2001 School Year and</u>
	<u>School Years Thereafter</u>
470	<u>Bachelor's degree..... \$10,995.00</u>

471 Sixty (60) credit hours, or more,
472 undergraduate coursework..... 9,495.00

473 High school diploma, or the equivalent..... 9,170.00

474 For assistant teachers holding a bachelor's degree, the
475 minimum base pay specified in this subsection shall be increased
476 by the sum of One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00) for each year
477 of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person holding
478 such degree until such person shall have fifteen (15) years of
479 assistant teaching experience.

480 For assistant teachers holding sixty (60) credit hours, or
481 more, undergraduate coursework, the minimum base pay specified in
482 this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Eighty Dollars
483 (\$80.00) for each year of assistant teaching experience possessed
484 by the person holding such degree until such person shall have ten
485 (10) years of assistant teaching experience.

486 For assistant teachers holding a high school diploma, or the
487 equivalent, the minimum base pay specified in this subsection
488 shall be increased by the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each
489 year of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person
490 holding such degree until such person shall have five (5) years of
491 assistant teaching experience.

492 The local school district shall require an official
493 transcript of the undergraduate coursework possessed by the
494 assistant teacher for purposes of determining his salary under the
495 minimum scale prescribed herein.

496 No assistant teacher shall be paid less than the amount he or
497 she received in the prior school year. In the 1995-1996 school
498 year and school years thereafter, no school district shall receive
499 any funds under this section for any school year during which the
500 aggregate amount of the local contribution to the salaries of
501 assistant teachers by the district shall have been reduced below
502 such amount for the previous year. The assistant teachers shall
503 not be restricted to working only in the grades for which the

504 funds were allotted, but may be assigned to other classes as
505 provided in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

506 (7) (a) As an alternative to employing assistant
507 teachers, * * * any school district is authorized to use the
508 minimum program allotment provided under subsection (6) of this
509 section for the purpose of employing licensed teachers for
510 kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade classes; however, no
511 school district shall be authorized to use the minimum program
512 allotment for assistant teachers for the purpose of employing
513 licensed teachers unless the district has established that the
514 employment of licensed teachers using such funds will reduce the
515 teacher:student ratio in the kindergarten, first-, second- and
516 third-grade classes. All minimum program funds for assistant
517 teachers shall be applied to reducing teacher:student ratio in
518 Grades K-3.

519 It is the intent of the Legislature that no school district
520 shall dismiss any assistant teacher for the purpose of using the
521 minimum program assistant teacher allotment to employ licensed
522 teachers. School districts may rely only upon normal attrition to
523 reduce the number of assistant teachers employed in that district.
524 Nothing herein shall prevent the reassignment of an assistant
525 teacher to another position for comparable compensation for which
526 the assistant teacher is qualified.

527 (b) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5
528 accreditation requirements, the State Board of Education, in its
529 discretion, may exempt such school district from any accreditation
530 requirements for the district's early childhood education program
531 or reading improvement program.

532 **[From and after July 1, 2002, this section reads as follows:]**

533 37-21-7. (1) This section shall be referred to as the
534 "Mississippi Elementary Schools Assistant Teacher Program," the
535 purpose of which shall be to provide an early childhood education
536 program that assists in the instruction of basic skills. The

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537 State Board of Education is authorized, empowered and directed to
538 implement a statewide system of assistant teachers in kindergarten
539 classes and in the first, second and third grades. The assistant
540 teacher shall assist pupils in actual instruction under the strict
541 supervision of a certified teacher.

542 (2) (a) Each school district shall employ the total number
543 of assistant teachers funded under subsection (6) of this section.
544 The superintendent of each district shall assign the assistant
545 teachers to the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade
546 classes in the district in a manner that will promote the maximum
547 efficiency, as determined by the superintendent, in the
548 instruction of skills such as verbal and linguistic skills,
549 logical and mathematical skills, and social skills.

550 (b) If a certified teacher to whom an assistant teacher
551 has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the
552 assistant teacher may assume responsibility for the classroom in
553 lieu of a substitute teacher. However, no assistant teacher shall
554 assume sole responsibility of the classroom for more than three
555 (3) consecutive school days. Further, in no event shall any
556 assistant teacher be assigned to serve as a substitute teacher for
557 any teacher other than the certified teacher to whom that
558 assistant teacher has been assigned.

559 (3) Assistant teachers shall have, at a minimum, a high
560 school diploma or a GED equivalent, and shall show demonstratable
561 proficiency in reading and writing skills. The State Department
562 of Education shall develop a testing procedure for assistant
563 teacher applicants to be used in all school districts in the
564 state.

565 (4) (a) In order to receive funding, each school district
566 shall:

567 (i) Submit a plan on the implementation of a
568 reading improvement program to the State Department of Education;
569 and

570 (ii) Develop a plan of educational accountability
571 and assessment of performance, including pretests and posttests,
572 for reading in Grades 1 through 6.

573 (b) Additionally, each school district shall:

574 (i) Provide annually a mandatory preservice
575 orientation session, using an existing in-school service day, for
576 administrators and teachers on the effective use of assistant
577 teachers as part of a team in the classroom setting and on the
578 role of assistant teachers, with emphasis on program goals;

579 (ii) Hold periodic workshops for administrators
580 and teachers on the effective use and supervision of assistant
581 teachers;

582 (iii) Provide training annually on specific
583 instructional skills for assistant teachers;

584 (iv) Annually evaluate their program in accordance
585 with their educational accountability and assessment of
586 performance plan; and

587 (v) Designate the necessary personnel to supervise
588 and report on their program.

589 (5) The State Department of Education shall:

590 (a) Develop and assist in the implementation of a
591 statewide uniform training module, subject to the availability of
592 funds specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, which
593 shall be used in all school districts for training administrators,
594 teachers and assistant teachers. The module shall provide for the
595 consolidated training of each assistant teacher and teacher to
596 whom the assistant teacher is assigned, working together as a
597 team, and shall require further periodical training for
598 administrators, teachers and assistant teachers regarding the role
599 of assistant teachers;

600 (b) Annually evaluate the program on the district and
601 state level. Subject to the availability of funds specifically
602 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the department shall

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603 develop: (i) uniform evaluation reports, to be performed by the
604 principal or assistant principal, to collect data for the annual
605 overall program evaluation conducted by the department; or (ii) a
606 program evaluation model that, at a minimum, addresses process
607 evaluation; and

608 (c) Promulgate rules, regulations and such other
609 standards deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
610 section. Noncompliance with the provisions of this section and
611 any rules, regulations or standards adopted by the department may
612 result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards as
613 established by the State Board of Education and Commission on
614 School Accreditation.

615 (6) For assistant teachers holding the following
616 qualifications as determined by the local school district, the
617 minimum scale shall be as follows:

618 2000-2001 School Year and School Years Thereafter

619 <u>Bachelor's degree</u>	<u>\$10,995.00</u>
620 <u>Sixty (60) credit hours, or more,</u>	
621 <u>undergraduate coursework</u>	<u>9,495.00</u>
622 <u>High school diploma, or the equivalent</u>	<u>9,170.00</u>

623 For assistant teachers holding a bachelor's degree, the
624 minimum base pay specified in this subsection shall be increased
625 by the sum of One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00) for each year
626 of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person holding
627 such degree until such person shall have fifteen (15) years of
628 assistant teaching experience.

629 For assistant teachers holding sixty (60) credit hours, or
630 more, undergraduate coursework, the minimum base pay specified in
631 this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Eighty Dollars
632 (\$80.00) for each year of assistant teaching experience possessed
633 by the person holding such degree until such person shall have ten
634 (10) years of assistant teaching experience.

635 For assistant teachers holding a high school diploma, or the

636 equivalent, the minimum base pay specified in this subsection
637 shall be increased by the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each
638 year of assistant teaching experience possessed by the person
639 holding such degree until such person shall have five (5) years of
640 assistant teaching experience.

641 The local school district shall require an official
642 transcript of the undergraduate coursework possessed by the
643 assistant teacher for purposes of determining his salary under the
644 minimum scale prescribed herein.

645 No assistant teacher shall be paid less than the amount he or
646 she received in the prior school year. In the 1995-1996 school
647 year and school years thereafter, no school district shall receive
648 any funds under this section for any school year during which the
649 aggregate amount of the local contribution to the salaries of
650 assistant teachers by the district shall have been reduced below
651 such amount for the previous year. The assistant teachers shall
652 not be restricted to working only in the grades for which the
653 funds were allotted, but may be assigned to other classes as
654 provided in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

655 (7) (a) As an alternative to employing assistant
656 teachers, * * * any school district is authorized to use the
657 minimum program allotment provided under subsection (6) of this
658 section for the purpose of employing licensed teachers for
659 kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade classes; however, no
660 school district shall be authorized to use the minimum program
661 allotment for assistant teachers for the purpose of employing
662 licensed teachers unless the district has established that the
663 employment of licensed teachers using such funds will reduce the
664 teacher:student ratio in the kindergarten, first-, second- and
665 third-grade classes. All minimum program funds for assistant
666 teachers shall be applied to reducing teacher:student ratio in
667 Grades K-3.

668 It is the intent of the Legislature that no school district

669 shall dismiss any assistant teacher for the purpose of using the
670 minimum program assistant teacher allotment to employ licensed
671 teachers. School districts may rely only upon normal attrition to
672 reduce the number of assistant teachers employed in that district.
673 Nothing herein shall prevent the reassignment of an assistant
674 teacher to another position for comparable compensation for which
675 the assistant teacher is qualified.

676 (b) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5
677 accreditation requirements, the State Board of Education, in its
678 discretion, may exempt such school district from any accreditation
679 requirements for the district's early childhood education program
680 or reading improvement program.

681 SECTION 4. The following provision shall be codified as
682 Section 37-19-24, Mississippi Code of 1972:

683 37-19-24. Beginning with the school year 1999-2000, in
684 addition to other funds allotted in this chapter, an amount
685 subject to appropriation shall be provided to fund the local cost
686 of state mandated salary increases as provided through Section
687 37-19-7. Such funds are provided where amounts provided through
688 Section 37-19-21 are insufficient to fund such increases and shall
689 be distributed based on district staffing for the immediate
690 preceding school year, as determined by the State Department of
691 Education.

692 This section shall stand repealed July 1, 2002.

693 SECTION 5. Section 37-61-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
694 amended as follows:

695 **[Until July 1, 2002, this section reads as follows:]**

696 37-61-33. (1) There is hereby created within the State
697 Treasury a special fund to be designated the "Education
698 Enhancement Fund" into which shall be deposited all the revenues
699 collected pursuant to Sections 27-65-75(8), 27-67-31(b) and
700 27-103-203(1).

701 (2) Of the amount deposited into the Education Enhancement

702 Fund, excluding revenues deposited pursuant to Section
703 27-103-203(1), Sixteen Million Dollars (\$16,000,000.00), and from
704 and after July 1, 2000, nine and forty-four one hundredths percent
705 (9.44%) shall be appropriated each fiscal year to the State
706 Department of Education to be distributed to all school districts.

707 Such money shall be distributed to all school districts in the
708 proportion that the average daily attendance of each school
709 district bears to the average daily attendance of all school
710 districts within the state for the following purposes:

711 (a) Purchasing, erecting, repairing, equipping,
712 remodeling and enlarging school buildings and related facilities,
713 including gymnasiums, auditoriums, lunchrooms, vocational training
714 buildings, libraries, teachers' homes, school barns,
715 transportation vehicles (which shall include new and used
716 transportation vehicles) and garages for transportation vehicles,
717 and purchasing land therefor.

718 (b) Establishing and equipping school athletic fields
719 and necessary facilities connected therewith, and purchasing land
720 therefor.

721 (c) Providing necessary water, light, heating, air
722 conditioning and sewerage facilities for school buildings, and
723 purchasing land therefor.

724 (d) As a pledge to pay all or a portion of the debt
725 service on debt issued by the school district under Sections
726 37-59-1 through 37-59-45, 37-59-101 through 37-59-115, 37-7-351
727 through 37-7-359, 37-41-89 through 37-41-99, 37-7-301, 37-7-302
728 and 37-41-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, or debt issued by boards
729 of supervisors for agricultural high schools pursuant to Section
730 37-27-65, Mississippi Code of 1972, if such pledge is accomplished
731 pursuant to a written contract or resolution approved and spread
732 upon the minutes of an official meeting of the district's school
733 board or board of supervisors. The annual grant to such district
734 in any subsequent year during the term of the resolution or

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735 contract shall not be reduced below an amount equal to the
736 district's grant amount for the year in which the contract or
737 resolution was adopted. The intent of this provision is to allow
738 school districts to irrevocably pledge a certain, constant stream
739 of revenue as security for long-term obligations issued under the
740 code sections enumerated in this paragraph or as otherwise allowed
741 by law. It is the intent of the Legislature that the provisions
742 of this paragraph shall be cumulative and supplemental to any
743 existing funding programs or other authority conferred upon school
744 districts or school boards. Debt of a district secured by a
745 pledge of sales tax revenue pursuant to this paragraph shall not
746 be subject to any debt limitation contained in the foregoing
747 enumerated code sections.

748 (3) The remainder of the money deposited into the Education
749 Enhancement Fund, excluding funds deposited pursuant to Section
750 27-103-203(1), shall be appropriated as follows:

751 (a) To the State Department of Education as follows:

752 (i) Eight and thirty-five one-hundredths percent
753 (8.35%) to be distributed to public school districts for the
754 funding of textbooks and other educational materials and to be
755 used by the State Department of Education for the purchase of
756 textbooks to be loaned under Sections 37-43-1 through 37-43-59 to
757 approved nonpublic schools, as described under Section 37-43-1.
758 The amount of funds under this item to be used by the department
759 for purchasing textbooks to loan to approved nonpublic schools
760 shall be in the proportion that the average daily attendance of
761 the nonpublic schools that are loaned textbooks by the state bears
762 to the average daily attendance of all school districts in the
763 state. The funds distributed to the school districts under this
764 item shall be in the proportion that the average daily attendance
765 of each school district bears to the average daily attendance of
766 all school districts within the state and shall be used to assist
767 in the funding of textbooks and other educational materials, to

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768 include not more than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) each
769 year for technology enhancement projects for elementary and
770 secondary education programs;

771 (ii) Seven and ninety-seven one-hundredths percent
772 (7.97%) to assist the funding of transportation operations and
773 maintenance pursuant to Section 37-19-23;

774 (iii) Eight and twenty-six one-hundredths percent
775 (8.26%) to assist the funding of the Uniform Millage Assistance
776 Grant Program pursuant to Section 37-22-1; and

777 (iv) Nine and sixty-one one-hundredths percent
778 (9.61%) for classroom supplies, instructional materials and
779 equipment, including computers and computer software, to be
780 distributed to all school districts in the proportion that the
781 average daily attendance of each school district bears to the
782 average daily attendance of all school districts within the state.
783 Such funds shall not be expended for administrative purposes.
784 Local school districts shall allocate classroom supply funds
785 equally among all classroom teachers in the school district. For
786 purposes of this subparagraph, "teacher" shall mean any employee
787 of the school board of a school district who is required by law to
788 obtain a teacher's license from the State Board of Education and
789 who is assigned to an instructional area of work as defined by the
790 State Department of Education, but shall not include a federally
791 funded teacher. Two (2) or more teachers may agree to pool their
792 classroom supply funds for the benefit of a school within the
793 district pursuant to the development of a spending plan that
794 supports the overall goals of the school which includes the type,
795 quantity and quality of such supplies, instructional materials,
796 equipment, computers or computer software. This plan shall be
797 submitted, in writing, to the school principal for approval.
798 Classroom supply funds allocated under this subparagraph shall
799 supplement, not replace, other local and state funds available for
800 the same purposes. School districts need not fully expend the

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801 funds received under this subparagraph in the year in which they
802 are received, but such funds may be carried forward for
803 expenditure in any succeeding school year. The State Board of
804 Education shall develop and promulgate rules and regulations for
805 the administration of this subparagraph consistent with the above
806 criteria, with particular emphasis on allowing the individual
807 teachers to expend funds as they deem appropriate, with minimum
808 input from school principals.

809 (b) Twenty-two and nine one-hundredths percent (22.09%)
810 to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning
811 for the purpose of supporting institutions of higher learning; and

812 (c) Fourteen and forty-one hundredths percent (14.41%)
813 to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges for the
814 purpose of providing support to community and junior colleges.

815 (4) The amount remaining in the Education Enhancement Fund
816 after funds are distributed as provided in subsections (2) and (3)
817 of this section, excluding funds deposited pursuant to Section
818 27-103-203(1), shall be disbursed as follows:

819 (a) Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) shall
820 be deposited into the Working Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund
821 created pursuant to Section 27-103-203(1), until the balance in
822 such fund reaches the maximum balance of seven and one-half
823 percent (7-1/2%) of the General Fund appropriations in the
824 appropriate fiscal year. After the maximum balance in the Working
825 Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund is reached, such money shall
826 remain in the Education Enhancement Fund to be appropriated in the
827 manner provided for in paragraph (b) of this section.

828 (b) The remainder shall be appropriated for other
829 educational needs.

830 (5) None of the funds appropriated pursuant to subsection
831 (3)(a) of this section shall be used to reduce the state's general
832 fund appropriation for the categories listed in an amount below
833 the following amounts:

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834 (a) For subsection (3)(a)(i) of this section, Six
835 Million Three Hundred Thirty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Dollars
836 (\$6,330,920.00);

837 (b) For subsection (3)(a)(ii) of this section
838 Thirty-six Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars
839 (\$36,700,000.00);

840 (c) For subsection (3)(a)(iii) of this section,
841 Twenty-one Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$21,400,000.00);
842 and

843 (d) For the aggregate of minimum program allotments
844 provided for in Chapter 19, Title 37, Mississippi Code of 1972, as
845 amended, excluding those funds for transportation as provided for
846 in subsection (5)(b) herein.

847 (6) At the end of a fiscal year such amounts as required by
848 Section 27-103-203(1) to be transferred to the Education
849 Enhancement Fund shall be deposited into said Education
850 Enhancement Fund and shall be kept separate from other monies in
851 the fund by the State Treasurer. Beginning with the 1994 fiscal
852 year the monies in such special fund deposited pursuant to said
853 Section 27-103-203(1) shall be subject to appropriation by the
854 Legislature in the following manner: (a) fifty percent (50%) to
855 support public education, including but not limited to, Grades K
856 through 12, Mississippi Educational Television and/or the
857 Mississippi Library Commission; (b) twenty-five percent (25%) to
858 support institutions of higher learning; and (c) twenty-five
859 percent (25%) to support the junior or community colleges. Any
860 amount of such monies transferred into said separate fund pursuant
861 to Section 27-103-203(1) which are not appropriated by the
862 Legislature shall not lapse but shall carry over and be subject to
863 appropriation by the Legislature in the succeeding fiscal year in
864 the same manner provided in this subsection (6). The interest
865 earned on the investment of such monies transferred pursuant to
866 Section 27-103-203(1) shall be paid into said separate fund within

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867 the Education Enhancement Fund.

868 **[From and after July 1, 2002, this section reads as follows:]**

869 37-61-33. (1) There is hereby created within the State
870 Treasury a special fund to be designated the "Education
871 Enhancement Fund" into which shall be deposited all the revenues
872 collected pursuant to Sections 27-65-75(8), 27-67-32(b) and
873 27-103-203(1).

874 (2) Of the amount deposited into the Education Enhancement
875 Fund, excluding revenues deposited pursuant to Section
876 27-103-203(1), Sixteen Million Dollars (\$16,000,000.00), and from
877 and after July 1, 2000, nine and forty-four one hundredths percent
878 (9.44%) shall be appropriated each fiscal year to the State
879 Department of Education to be distributed to all school districts.

880 Such money shall be distributed to all school districts in the
881 proportion that the average daily attendance of each school
882 district bears to the average daily attendance of all school
883 districts within the state for the following purposes:

884 (a) Purchasing, erecting, repairing, equipping,
885 remodeling and enlarging school buildings and related facilities,
886 including gymnasiums, auditoriums, lunchrooms, vocational training
887 buildings, libraries, teachers' homes, school barns,
888 transportation vehicles (which shall include new and used
889 transportation vehicles) and garages for transportation vehicles,
890 and purchasing land therefor.

891 (b) Establishing and equipping school athletic fields
892 and necessary facilities connected therewith, and purchasing land
893 therefor.

894 (c) Providing necessary water, light, heating, air
895 conditioning and sewerage facilities for school buildings, and
896 purchasing land therefor.

897 (d) As a pledge to pay all or a portion of the debt
898 service on debt issued by the school district under Sections
899 37-59-1 through 37-59-45, 37-59-101 through 37-59-115, 37-7-351

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900 through 37-7-359, 37-41-89 through 37-41-99, 37-7-301, 37-7-302
901 and 37-41-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, or debt issued by boards
902 of supervisors for agricultural high schools pursuant to Section
903 37-27-65, Mississippi Code of 1972, if such pledge is accomplished
904 pursuant to a written contract or resolution approved and spread
905 upon the minutes of an official meeting of the district's school
906 board or board of supervisors. The annual grant to such district
907 in any subsequent year during the term of the resolution or
908 contract shall not be reduced below an amount equal to the
909 district's grant amount for the year in which the contract or
910 resolution was adopted. The intent of this provision is to allow
911 school districts to irrevocably pledge a certain, constant stream
912 of revenue as security for long-term obligations issued under the
913 code sections enumerated in this paragraph or as otherwise allowed
914 by law. It is the intent of the Legislature that the provisions
915 of this paragraph shall be cumulative and supplemental to any
916 existing funding programs or other authority conferred upon school
917 districts or school boards. Debt of a district secured by a
918 pledge of sales tax revenue pursuant to this paragraph shall not
919 be subject to any debt limitation contained in the foregoing
920 enumerated code sections.

921 (3) The remainder of the money deposited into the Education
922 Enhancement Fund, excluding funds deposited pursuant to Section
923 27-103-203(1), shall be appropriated as follows:

924 (a) To the State Department of Education as follows:

925 (i) Sixteen and sixty-one one-hundredths percent
926 (16.61%) to the cost of the adequate education program determined
927 under Section 37-151-7;

928 (ii) Seven and ninety-seven one-hundredths percent
929 (7.97%) to assist the funding of transportation operations and
930 maintenance pursuant to Section 37-19-23; and

931 (iii) Nine and sixty-one one-hundredths percent
932 (9.61%) for classroom supplies, instructional materials and

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933 equipment, including computers and computer software, to be
934 distributed to all school districts in the proportion that the
935 average daily attendance of each school district bears to the
936 average daily attendance of all school districts within the state.

937 It is the intent of the Legislature that all classroom teachers
938 shall be involved in the development of a spending plan that
939 addresses individual classroom needs and supports the overall
940 goals of the school regarding supplies, instructional materials,
941 equipment, computers or computer software under the provisions of
942 this subparagraph, including the type, quantity and quality of
943 such supplies, materials and equipment. This plan shall be
944 submitted to the school principal for approval. School districts
945 need not fully expend the funds received under this subparagraph
946 in the year in which they are received, but such funds may be
947 carried forward for expenditure in any succeeding school year.

948 (b) Twenty-two and nine one-hundredths percent (22.09%)
949 to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning
950 for the purpose of supporting institutions of higher learning, and
951 fourteen and forty-one one-hundredths percent (14.41%) to the
952 State Board for Community and Junior Colleges for the purpose of
953 providing support to community and junior colleges.

954 (4) The amount remaining in the Education Enhancement Fund
955 after funds are distributed as provided in subsections (2) and (3)
956 of this section, excluding funds deposited pursuant to Section
957 27-103-203(1), shall be disbursed as follows:

958 (a) Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) shall
959 be deposited into the Working Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund
960 created pursuant to Section 27-103-203(1), until the balance in
961 such fund reaches the maximum balance of seven and one-half
962 percent (7-1/2%) of the General Fund appropriations in the
963 appropriate fiscal year. After the maximum balance in the Working
964 Cash-Stabilization Reserve Fund is reached, such money shall
965 remain in the Education Enhancement Fund to be appropriated in the

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966 manner provided for in paragraph (b) of this section.

967 (b) The remainder shall be appropriated for other
968 educational needs.

969 (5) None of the funds appropriated pursuant to subsection
970 (3)(a) of this section shall be used to reduce the state's general
971 fund appropriation for the categories listed in an amount below
972 the following amounts:

973 (a) For subsection (3)(a)(ii) of this section
974 Thirty-six Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars
975 (\$36,700,000.00);

976 (b) For the aggregate of minimum program allotments in
977 the 1997 fiscal year, formerly provided for in Chapter 19, Title
978 37, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, excluding those funds
979 for transportation as provided for in subsection (5)(a) herein.

980 (6) At the end of a fiscal year such amounts as required by
981 Section 27-103-203(1) to be transferred to the Education
982 Enhancement Fund shall be deposited into said Education
983 Enhancement Fund and shall be kept separate from other monies in
984 the fund by the State Treasurer. Beginning with the 1994 fiscal
985 year the monies in such special fund deposited pursuant to said
986 Section 27-103-203(1) shall be subject to appropriation by the
987 Legislature in the following manner: (a) fifty percent (50%) to
988 support public education, including but not limited to, Grades K
989 through 12, Mississippi Educational Television and/or the
990 Mississippi Library Commission; (b) twenty-five percent (25%) to
991 support institutions of higher learning; and (c) twenty-five
992 percent (25%) to support the junior or community colleges. Any
993 amount of such monies transferred into said separate fund pursuant
994 to Section 27-103-203(1) which are not appropriated by the
995 Legislature shall not lapse but shall carry over and be subject to
996 appropriation by the Legislature in the succeeding fiscal year in
997 the same manner provided in this subsection (6). The interest
998 earned on the investment of such monies transferred pursuant to

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999 Section 27-103-203(1) shall be paid into said separate fund within
1000 the Education Enhancement Fund.

1001 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from
1002 and after July 1, 1999.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE TEACHER SALARY SCALE UNDER THE MINIMUM EDUCATION
3 PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
4 INCREASE THE ALLOTMENT OF MINIMUM EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR
5 SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 37-21-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
6 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR AND INCREASE THE ASSISTANT TEACHER SALARY
7 SCALE UNDER THE MINIMUM EDUCATION PROGRAM; TO CLARIFY THAT PERSONS
8 WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE GENERAL EDUCATIONAL
9 DEVELOPMENT (GED) TEST MAY SERVE AS ASSISTANT TEACHERS; TO
10 AUTHORIZE ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO USE MINIMUM PROGRAM ASSISTANT
11 TEACHER FUNDS TO EMPLOY ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED TEACHERS IN GRADES
12 K-3, REGARDLESS OF ACCREDITATION LEVEL; TO CODIFY SECTION
13 37-19-24, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE AN ALLOTMENT OF
14 MINIMUM PROGRAM FUNDS TO FUND THE LOCAL COST OF TEACHER SALARY
15 INCREASES; TO AMEND SECTION 37-61-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
16 PROVIDE THAT FROM AND AFTER JULY 1, 2000, APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE
17 EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT FUND FOR SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND
18 SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES SHALL BE DETERMINED ON A PERCENTAGE
19 BASIS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.