

By: Davis, Warren, Fillingane, Lott, Snowden To: Education; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1260

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL SALARY SUPPLEMENT AND ONE TIME
3 PROCESS REIMBURSEMENT TO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS ACQUIRING THE
4 NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST DESIGNATION; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

9 37-19-7. (1) The allowance in the minimum education program
10 for teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
11 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
12 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
13 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
14 allotted. For teachers holding the following types of licenses or
15 the equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, and
16 the following number of years of teaching experience, the scale
17 shall be as follows:

18 1999-2000 School Year

19 and School Years Thereafter

20 Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience

Table with 2 columns: License type (AAAA, AAA, AA, A) and Salary amount (\$25,790.00, 24,940.00, 24,090.00, 23,040.00)

25 25 or More Years of Teaching Experience

Table with 2 columns: License type (AAAA, AAA) and Salary amount (\$26,790.00, 25,940.00)

28       AA.....25,090.00  
29       A.....24,040.00

30       It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made  
31 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the  
32 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall  
33 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal  
34 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of  
35 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority  
36 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to  
37 establish, administer and maintain the system.

38       All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a  
39 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no  
40 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any  
41 school year during which the local supplement paid to any  
42 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that  
43 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties  
44 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school  
45 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health  
46 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the  
47 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered  
48 a part of the amount of individual local supplement.

49       For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
50 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
51 Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$660.00) for each year of teaching  
52 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
53 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

54       For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
55 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
56 Five Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$595.00) for each year of  
57 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
58 until such person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching  
59 experience.

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

61 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
62 Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$530.00) for each year of teaching  
63 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
64 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

65 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
66 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
67 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$435.00) for each year of teaching  
68 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
69 person shall have twenty-one (21) years of teaching experience.

70 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used  
71 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each  
72 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license  
73 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current  
74 school year.

75 (2) (a) The following employees shall receive an annual  
76 salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars  
77 (\$6,000.00), plus fringe benefits, in addition to any other  
78 compensation to which the employee may be entitled:

79 (i) Any licensed teacher who has met the  
80 requirements and acquired a Master Teacher certificate from the  
81 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and who is  
82 employed by a local school board or the State Board of Education  
83 as a teacher and not as an administrator. In the 1999-2000 and  
84 2000-2001 school year, such teacher shall submit documentation to  
85 the State Department of Education that the certificate was  
86 received prior to April 15 in order to be eligible for the full  
87 salary supplement in the current school year. In the 2001-2002  
88 school year and in school years thereafter, such teacher shall  
89 submit documentation to the State Department of Education that the  
90 certificate was received prior to October 15 in order to be  
91 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
92 year, or the teacher shall submit such documentation to the State  
93 Department of Education prior to February 15 in order to be

94 eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the  
95 second term of the school year.

96           (ii) From and after July 1, 1999, any licensed  
97 school counselor who has met the requirements and acquired a  
98 National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) endorsement from the  
99 National Board of Certified Counselors and who is employed by a  
100 local school board or the State Board of Education as a counselor  
101 and not as an administrator. Such licensed school counselor  
102 shall submit documentation to the State Department of Education  
103 that the endorsement was received prior to October 15 in order to  
104 be eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
105 year, or the licensed school counselor shall submit such  
106 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
107 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
108 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
109 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be  
110 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National  
111 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification  
112 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school counselors,  
113 and any school counselor receiving the salary supplement will be  
114 required to complete the Master Teacher certificate process under  
115 item (i) of this paragraph in order to continue receiving such  
116 salary supplement.

117           (iii) From and after July 1, 1999, any licensed  
118 speech-language pathologist and audiologist who has met the  
119 requirements and acquired a Certificate of Clinical Competence  
120 from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and who is  
121 employed by a local school board. Such licensed speech-language  
122 pathologist and audiologist shall submit documentation to the  
123 State Department of Education that the certificate or endorsement  
124 was received prior to October 15 in order to be eligible for the  
125 full salary supplement in the current school year, or the licensed  
126 speech-language pathologist and audiologist shall submit such

127 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
128 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
129 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
130 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be  
131 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National  
132 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification  
133 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school speech  
134 pathologists and audiologists, and any school speech pathologist  
135 and audiologist receiving the salary supplement will be required  
136 to complete the Master Teacher certificate process under item (i)  
137 of this paragraph in order to continue receiving such salary  
138 supplement.

139 (iv) From and after July 1, 2000, any licensed  
140 school psychologist who has met the requirements and acquired the  
141 designation "Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP)"  
142 through the National School Psychology Certification System and  
143 who is employed by a local school board or the State Board of  
144 Education as a psychologist and not as an administrator. A  
145 nationally certified school psychologist shall submit  
146 documentation to the State Department of Education that the  
147 certification was received before October 15 in order to be  
148 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
149 year, or the nationally certified school psychologist shall submit  
150 such documentation to the State Department of Education before  
151 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
152 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
153 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be  
154 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National  
155 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification  
156 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school psychologists,  
157 and any school psychologist receiving the salary supplement will  
158 be required to complete the Master Teacher certificate process  
159 under item (i) of this paragraph in order to continue receiving

160 such salary supplement.

161           (b) An employee shall be reimbursed one (1) time for  
162 the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
163 certificate or endorsement, excluding any costs incurred for  
164 postgraduate courses, not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)  
165 for a school counselor, school psychologist or speech-language  
166 pathologist and audiologist, regardless of whether or not the  
167 process resulted in the award of the certificate or endorsement.  
168 A local school district or any private individual or entity may  
169 pay the cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
170 certificate or endorsement for any employee of the school district  
171 described under paragraph (a), and the State Department of  
172 Education shall reimburse the school district for such cost,  
173 regardless of whether or not the process resulted in the award of  
174 the certificate or endorsement. If a private individual or entity  
175 has paid the cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
176 certificate or endorsement for an employee, the local school  
177 district may agree to directly reimburse the individual or entity  
178 for such cost on behalf of the employee.

179           (c) All salary supplements, fringe benefits and process  
180 reimbursement authorized under this subsection shall be paid  
181 directly by the State Department of Education to the local school  
182 district and shall be in addition to its minimum education program  
183 allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with regulations  
184 promulgated by the State Board of Education, and subject to  
185 appropriation by the Legislature. Local school districts shall  
186 not reduce the local supplement paid to any employee receiving  
187 such salary supplement, and the employee shall receive any local  
188 supplement to which employees with similar training and experience  
189 otherwise are entitled.

190           (d) The State Department of Education may not pay any  
191 process reimbursement to a school district for an employee who  
192 does not complete the certification or endorsement process

193 required to be eligible for the certificate or endorsement. If an  
194 employee for whom such cost has been paid in full or in part by a  
195 local school district or private individual or entity fails to  
196 complete the certification or endorsement process, the employee  
197 shall be liable to the school district or individual or entity for  
198 all amounts paid by the school district or individual or entity on  
199 behalf of that employee toward his or her certificate or  
200 endorsement.

201 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
202 and after July 1, 2000.