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To: Education

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2491

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-7-306, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE ALL LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SELECTED AFTER JULY 1,
3 2004, TO HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT, AND TO
4 REQUIRE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS OF SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE LOST THEIR
5 ACCREDITATION TO COMPLETE ANNUAL TRAINING COURSES IN ORDER TO
6 RETAIN THEIR OFFICE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 37-7-306, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:[JU1]

10 37-7-306. (1) Every school board member selected after July
11 1, 2004, shall have a high school diploma or its equivalent.

12 (2) Every school board member selected after July 1, 1993,
13 shall be required to complete a basic course of training and
14 education for local school board members, in order for board
15 members to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed
16 to new ideas involving school restructuring. Such basic course of
17 training, approved by the State Board of Education, shall be
18 conducted by the School Executive Management Institute of the
19 State Department of Education. Upon completion of the basic
20 course of training, the School Executive Management Institute
21 shall file a certificate of completion for the school board member
22 with the office of the local school board. In the event that a
23 board member fails to complete such training within six (6) months
24 of his selection, or six (6) months from April 15, 1993, such
25 board member shall no longer be qualified to serve and shall be
26 removed from office.

27 (3) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection
28 (2) of this section, after taking office, each school board member

29 shall be required to file annually in the office of the school
30 board a certificate of completion of a course of continuing
31 education conducted by the Mississippi School Boards Association.

32 (4) Every school board member selected after July 1, 2004
33 shall complete a course for substitute teachers and teach at least
34 one (1) full day in a school in the district they represent,
35 without compensation.

36 (5) Upon the failure of any local school board member to
37 file with the school board the certificate of completion of the
38 basic course of training as provided in subsection (2) of this
39 section, the school board member shall be removed from office.

40 (6) Upon the failure of any local school board member of a
41 school district with a school failing to meet minimum
42 accreditation standards to file with the school board the
43 certificate of completion of the continuing education course of
44 training provided in subsection (3) of this section, the school
45 board member shall be removed from office by the Attorney General.

46 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
47 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
48 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
49 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
50 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
51 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
52 extended.

53 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
54 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
55 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.