

By: Harden, Chaney

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2545

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT AS A CONDITION FOR THE RECEIPT OF MINIMUM
3 EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDS, ALL PROFESSIONAL STAFF EMPLOYED IN SCHOOL
4 DISTRICTS SHALL BE PROPERLY LICENSED AND ENDORSED, WITH CERTAIN
5 EXCEPTIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 37-19-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:[RDD1]

9 37-19-17. (1) The total allowance made by the State Board
10 of Education in the minimum education program for teachers'
11 salaries for each type of license in any school district shall not
12 be in excess of the total amount determined by the scale for
13 teachers holding each type of license as provided in this chapter
14 or the amount actually paid to such teachers with such type of
15 licenses, whichever amount is smaller. However, the school boards
16 of all school districts may establish salary schedules based on
17 training, experience, and other such factors as may be
18 incorporated therein, including student progress and performance
19 as developed by the State Board of Education, paying teachers
20 greater amounts than the scale provided herein, but no teacher may
21 be paid less than the amount allotted for such teacher based upon
22 the scale of pay provided in this chapter, and all supplements

23 paid from local funds shall be based upon the salary schedules so
24 established. The school boards may call upon the State Department
25 of Education for aid and assistance in formulating and
26 establishing such salary schedules, and it shall be the duty of
27 the State Department of Education, when so called upon, to render
28 such aid and assistance.

29 (2) The amount allotted for teachers' salaries by the State
30 Board of Education and the amount actually paid to each teacher
31 shall be based upon and determined by the type of license held by
32 such teacher.

33 (3) In order for a school district to receive minimum
34 education program funding for teachers' salaries, all professional
35 staff in each school in the district shall be properly licensed
36 and endorsed, as follows:

37 (a) The teaching staff in each school shall be
38 comprised of no more than five percent (5%) of nonlicensed
39 teaching personnel who teach for no more than three (3) periods
40 per day and who have been approved by the State Department of
41 Education, as provided in Section 37-3-2(6)(e-f). Individuals
42 holding an expert citizen license shall be exempt from this five
43 percent (5%) limitation.

44 (b) The professional staff in each school in the school
45 district shall be comprised of no more than five percent (5%) who
46 are working outside the area or areas of endorsement.

47 (c) An appropriate license shall be required of all
48 superintendents, principals, librarians, and high school guidance
49 counselors.

50 (d) Secondary teachers endorsed in an academic subject
51 area may teach in their academic subject area in departmentalized
52 elementary Grades 5 and 6.

53 (e) Assistant principals who are not properly endorsed

54 may be included in the five percent (5%) limitation on working
55 outside their area of endorsement, provided that they do not act
56 in the place of the principal.

57 (f) Application of the five percent (5%) limitation
58 prescribed herein shall be based on full-time equivalent
59 positions.

60 The State Department shall withhold minimum education program
61 funds allotted for teacher salaries from any school district which
62 is not in compliance with the provisions of this subsection (3).

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