

By: Bryan

To: Education;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2862

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS EMPLOYED
3 FULL-TIME BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SALARY
4 SUPPLEMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

8 37-19-7. (1) The allowance in the minimum education program
9 for teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
10 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
11 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection for the number
12 of teachers employed not in excess of the number of teacher units
13 allotted. For teachers holding the following types of licenses or
14 the equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, and
15 the following number of years of teaching experience, the scale
16 shall be as follows:

17 **1999-2000 School Year**

18 **and School Years Thereafter**

19 **Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience**

20	AAAA.....	\$25,790.00
21	AAA.....	24,940.00
22	AA.....	24,090.00
23	A.....	23,040.00

24 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

25	AAAA.....	\$26,790.00
26	AAA.....	25,940.00
27	AA.....	25,090.00

28 A.....24,040.00

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

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

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

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

59 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay
60 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five

61 Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$530.00) for each year of teaching
62 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
63 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

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

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

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

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

94 second term of the school year.

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

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

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

138 (iv) From and after July 1, 2000, any licensed
139 school psychologist who has met the requirements and acquired a
140 NASP certificate by the National Association of School
141 Psychologists and who is employed by a local school board. Such
142 school psychologist shall submit documentation to the State
143 Department of Education that the certificate or endorsement was
144 received prior to October 15 in order to be eligible for the full
145 salary supplement in the current school year, or the school
146 psychologist shall submit such documentation to the State
147 Department of Education prior to February 15 in order to be
148 eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the
149 second term of the school year. However, the salary supplement
150 authorized under this item shall be discontinued two (2) years
151 after the date on which the National Board for Professional
152 Teaching Standards offers a certification process for a Master
153 Teacher certificate for school psychologists, and any school
154 psychologists receiving the salary supplement will be required to
155 complete the Master Teacher certificate process under item (i) of
156 this paragraph in order to continue receiving such salary
157 supplement.

158 (b) An employee shall be reimbursed one (1) time for
159 the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring the

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

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

187 (d) The State Department of Education may not pay any
188 process reimbursement to a school district for an employee who
189 does not complete the certification or endorsement process
190 required to be eligible for the certificate or endorsement. If an
191 employee for whom such cost has been paid in full or in part by a
192 local school district or private individual or entity fails to

193 complete the certification or endorsement process, the employee
194 shall be liable to the school district or individual or entity for
195 all amounts paid by the school district or individual or entity on
196 behalf of that employee toward his or her certificate or
197 endorsement.

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