

By: Walls, Harden

To: Judiciary

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 3103

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9-13-121, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE GIVING OF EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A COURT
3 REPORTER, NOTICE, THE EFFECT OF NOT PASSING THE EXAMINATION, AND
4 TEMPORARY CERTIFICATES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 9-13-121, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:[CSQ1]

8 9-13-121. (1) Any person graduating from a National Court
9 Reporting Association, accredited court reporting program or court
10 reporting school, whether in the State of Mississippi or
11 out-of-state, shall be given certification without examination.
12 Any person graduating from a court reporting school approved by
13 the State of Mississippi or some other state shall be given a
14 temporary certification but shall make application for and pass a
15 Certified Shorthand Reporter's (CSR) examination as is provided
16 for in this section.

17 (2) The Board of Court Reporters shall implement a true CSR
18 examination wherein all examinees are given the opportunity to
19 pass each part of the said examination in "legs" (one part at a
20 time). All temporary certifications or permits shall be
21 automatically extended until the board has prepared, developed and
22 implemented such an examination and each applicant has the
23 opportunity to take the examination for three (3) consecutive
24 times. Any such extension of a temporary certification or permit
25 shall be granted for not less than eighteen (18) months
26 immediately after the implementation of the true CSR for existing
27 temporary certifications or permits. Any applicant granted a

28 temporary certification or permit after implementation of the true
29 CSR examination shall be allowed not less than eighteen (18)
30 months after being granted the temporary certification or permit
31 to pass the examination.

32 Examinations for certification shall be given not less than
33 each six (6) months, at a time and place designated by the board.
34 Notification of such examinations shall be given each applicant
35 in writing not less than thirty (30) days before each examination
36 date.

37 If after three (3) consecutive examinations, the applicant
38 holding the temporary certificate has not qualified for
39 certification, the applicant shall be permitted a hearing before
40 the board. If said applicant has passed at least two (2) parts of
41 the examination, the applicant will be given an extension of not
42 more than one (1) year.

43 Should any official court reporting position become
44 available, said position must be filled only by an actual "tested"
45 applicant, not an applicant who has been grandfathered in.

46 (3) Those reporters holding temporary certificates must
47 submit their applications, together with the fee, to the board and
48 take the next scheduled examination. If after three (3)
49 consecutive examinations the applicant holding the temporary
50 certificate has not qualified for certification, the applicant
51 shall be deemed unqualified to serve as a reporter until the
52 applicant passes the examination and receives permanent
53 certification or has been granted an extension according to
54 subsection (2).

55 (4) Photo identification may be required of any applicant
56 prior to the taking of an examination for security reasons only
57 but shall not be used for discrimination against applicants on the
58 basis of race, gender, age, creed or national origin.

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