

By: Representative Warren

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1002

1 AN ACT TO DEFINE THE COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING SERVICES TO BE  
2 PROVIDED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS; AND  
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year,  
6 the assignment of school guidance counselors in Grades K-12 to the  
7 particular schools within a school district shall be at the  
8 discretion of the local school board with the following  
9 restrictions:

10 (a) No individual may be employed as a school guidance  
11 counselor without appropriate training and certification, as  
12 determined by the State Department of Education; and

13 (b) School guidance counselors shall be full-time  
14 professional personnel and shall spend a minimum of eighty-five  
15 percent (85%) of work time in direct counseling relationships with  
16 students.

17 (2) School guidance counselors shall provide the following  
18 comprehensive counseling services:

- 19 (a) Academic and personal or social counseling;
- 20 (b) Student assessment and assessment counseling;
- 21 (c) Career and educational counseling;
- 22 (d) Individual and group counseling (large or small  
23 groups);
- 24 (e) Crisis intervention and preventive counseling;
- 25 (f) Referrals to community agencies;
- 26 (g) Educational consultation and collaboration with  
27 teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders;

28 (h) Educational and career placement services; and

29 (i) Follow-up counseling services.

30 (3) The State Department of Education may adopt rules and  
31 regulations regarding the activities of the school guidance  
32 counselors which are not inconsistent with this section.

33 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
34 and after July 1, 2001.