

By: Representative Snowden

To: Education;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1014

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-19-7, 37-19-21 AND 37-21-7,  
 2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE SINE DIE GENERAL FUND  
 3 REVENUE ESTIMATE TO REFLECT A CUMULATIVE INCREASE THAT IS AT LEAST  
 4 FIVE PERCENT GREATER THAN THE ACTUAL GENERAL FUND COLLECTIONS IN  
 5 THE 2000-2001 FISCAL YEAR AS A PREREQUISITE TO IMPLEMENTING THE  
 6 FIRST INCREASE IN SALARIES FOR TEACHERS AND ASSISTANT TEACHERS AND  
 7 IN THE ALLOTMENT FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
 8 PLAN TO RAISE TEACHERS' SALARIES TO THE SOUTHEASTERN AVERAGE, TO  
 9 PROVIDE THAT RAISES WILL BE AWARDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH  
 10 THE FIVE PERCENT GROWTH ESTIMATE IS ATTAINED, AND TO REQUIRE EACH  
 11 SUBSEQUENT RAISE UNDER THE PLAN TO BE IMPLEMENTED UPON THE SINE  
 12 DIE GENERAL FUND REVENUE ESTIMATE INCREASING AN ADDITIONAL FIVE  
 13 PERCENT ABOVE THE 2000-2001 FISCAL YEAR GENERAL FUND COLLECTIONS;  
 14 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

16 SECTION 1. Section 37-19-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 17 amended as follows:

18 37-19-7. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited  
 19 as the Mississippi "Teacher Opportunity Program (TOP)." The  
 20 allowance in the minimum education program and the Mississippi  
 21 Adequate Education Program for teachers' salaries in each county  
 22 and separate school district shall be determined and paid in  
 23 accordance with the scale for teachers' salaries as provided in  
 24 this subsection. For teachers holding the following types of  
 25 licenses or the equivalent as determined by the State Board of  
 26 Education, and the following number of years of teaching  
 27 experience, the scale shall be as follows:

28 **2001-2002 School Year**

29 **and School Years Thereafter**

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

31	AAAA.....	\$ 25,790.00
32	AAA.....	24,940.00
33	AA.....	24,090.00



34 A..... 23,040.00

35 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

36 AAAA..... \$ 26,790.00

37 AAA..... 25,940.00

38 AA..... 25,090.00

39 A..... 24,040.00

40 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
41 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least five  
42 percent (5%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
43 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
44 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
45 scale shall be as follows beginning in the succeeding fiscal year:

46 \* \* \*

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

48 AAAA..... \$ 26,290.00

49 AAA..... 25,440.00

50 AA..... 24,590.00

51 A..... 23,540.00

52 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

53 AAAA..... \$ 27,790.00

54 AAA..... 26,940.00

55 AA..... 26,090.00

56 A..... 25,040.00

57 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
58 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least ten  
59 percent (10%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
60 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
61 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
62 scale shall be as follows beginning in the succeeding fiscal year:

63 \* \* \*

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

65 AAAA..... \$ 27,850.00

66 AAA..... 27,000.00



67 AA..... 26,150.00

68 A..... 24,700.00

69 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

70 AAAA..... \$ 29,850.00

71 AAA..... 29,000.00

72 AA..... 28,150.00

73 A..... 26,700.00

74 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
75 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
76 fifteen percent (15%) greater than the actual General Fund  
77 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
78 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
79 the scale shall be as follows beginning in the succeeding fiscal  
80 year:

81 \* \* \*

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

83 AAAA..... \$ 29,550.00

84 AAA..... 28,700.00

85 AA..... 27,850.00

86 A..... 26,000.00

87 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

88 AAAA..... \$ 31,550.00

89 AAA..... 30,700.00

90 AA..... 29,850.00

91 A..... 28,000.00

92 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
93 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
94 twenty percent (20%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
95 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
96 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
97 scale shall be as follows beginning in the succeeding fiscal year:

98 \* \* \*

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



100	AAAA.....	\$ 31,775.00
101	AAA.....	30,850.00
102	AA.....	29,925.00
103	A.....	28,000.00

**25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

105	AAAA.....	\$ 33,775.00
106	AAA.....	32,850.00
107	AA.....	31,925.00
108	A.....	30,000.00

109 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
110 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
111 twenty-five percent (25%) greater than the actual General Fund  
112 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
113 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
114 the scale shall be as follows beginning in the succeeding fiscal  
115 year:

116 \* \* \*

**Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience**

118	AAAA.....	\$ 34,000.00
119	AAA.....	33,000.00
120	AA.....	32,000.00
121	A.....	30,000.00

**25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

123	AAAA.....	\$ 36,000.00
124	AAA.....	35,000.00
125	AA.....	34,000.00
126	A.....	32,000.00

127 \* \* \*

128 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made  
129 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the  
130 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall  
131 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal  
132 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of



133 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority  
134 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to  
135 establish, administer and maintain the system.

136 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a  
137 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no  
138 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any  
139 school year during which the local supplement paid to any  
140 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that  
141 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties  
142 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school  
143 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health  
144 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the  
145 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered  
146 a part of the amount of individual local supplement.

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

152 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
153 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
154 Five Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$595.00) for each year of  
155 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
156 until such person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching  
157 experience.

158 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
159 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
160 Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$530.00) for each year of teaching  
161 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
162 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

163 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
164 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
165 Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$435.00) for each year of teaching



166 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
167 person shall have twenty-one (21) years of teaching experience.

168 However, whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate  
169 for the succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at  
170 least ten percent (10%) greater than the actual General Fund  
171 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
172 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
173 the annual increments shall be as follows beginning in the  
174 succeeding fiscal year:

175 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
176 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
177 Six Hundred Eighty-five Dollars (\$685.00) for each year of  
178 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
179 until such person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching  
180 experience.

181 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
182 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
183 Six Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$620.00) for each year of teaching  
184 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
185 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

186 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
187 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
188 Hundred Fifty-five Dollars (\$555.00) for each year of teaching  
189 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
190 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

191 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
192 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
193 Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$445.00) for each year of teaching  
194 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
195 person shall have twenty-two (22) years of teaching experience.

196 However, whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate  
197 for the succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at  
198 least fifteen percent (15%) greater than the actual General Fund



199 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
200 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
201 the annual increments shall be as follows beginning in the  
202 succeeding fiscal year:

203         For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
204 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
205 Seven Hundred Ten Dollars (\$710.00) for each year of teaching  
206 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
207 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

208         For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
209 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
210 Six Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$645.00) for each year of teaching  
211 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
212 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

213         For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
214 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
215 Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$580.00) for each year of teaching  
216 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
217 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

218         For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
219 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
220 Hundred Fifty-five Dollars (\$455.00) for each year of teaching  
221 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
222 person shall have twenty-three (23) years of teaching experience.

223         However, whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate  
224 for the succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at  
225 least twenty percent (20%) greater than the actual General Fund  
226 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
227 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
228 the annual increments shall be as follows beginning in the  
229 succeeding fiscal year:

230         For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
231 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of



232 Seven Hundred Forty Dollars (\$740.00) for each year of teaching  
233 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
234 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

235 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
236 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
237 Six Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$675.00) for each year of  
238 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
239 until such person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching  
240 experience.

241 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
242 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six  
243 Hundred Ten Dollars (\$610.00) for each year of teaching experience  
244 possessed by the person holding such license until such person  
245 shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

246 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
247 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
248 Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$465.00) for each year of teaching  
249 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
250 person shall have twenty-four (24) years of teaching experience.

251 However, whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate  
252 for the succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at  
253 least twenty-five percent (25%) greater than the actual General  
254 Fund revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as  
255 certified by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of  
256 Education, the annual increments shall be as follows beginning in  
257 the succeeding fiscal year:

258 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
259 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
260 Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$770.00) for each year of teaching  
261 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
262 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

263 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
264 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of



265 Seven Hundred Five Dollars (\$705.00) for each year of teaching  
266 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
267 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

268 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
269 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six  
270 Hundred Forty Dollars (\$640.00) for each year of teaching  
271 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
272 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

273 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
274 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four  
275 Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$480.00) for each year of teaching  
276 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
277 person shall have twenty-four (24) years of teaching experience.

278 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used  
279 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each  
280 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license  
281 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current  
282 school year.

283 (2) (a) The following employees shall receive an annual  
284 salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars  
285 (\$6,000.00), plus fringe benefits, in addition to any other  
286 compensation to which the employee may be entitled:

287 (i) Any licensed teacher who has met the  
288 requirements and acquired a Master Teacher certificate from the  
289 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and who is  
290 employed by a local school board or the State Board of Education  
291 as a teacher and not as an administrator. In the 1999-2000 and  
292 2000-2001 school year, such teacher shall submit documentation to  
293 the State Department of Education that the certificate was  
294 received prior to April 15 in order to be eligible for the full  
295 salary supplement in the current school year. In the 2001-2002  
296 school year and in school years thereafter, such teacher shall  
297 submit documentation to the State Department of Education that the



298 certificate was received prior to October 15 in order to be  
299 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
300 year, or the teacher shall submit such documentation to the State  
301 Department of Education prior to February 15 in order to be  
302 eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the  
303 second term of the school year.

304 (ii) From and after July 1, 1999, any licensed  
305 school counselor who has met the requirements and acquired a  
306 National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) endorsement from the  
307 National Board of Certified Counselors and who is employed by a  
308 local school board or the State Board of Education as a counselor  
309 and not as an administrator. Such licensed school counselor shall  
310 submit documentation to the State Department of Education that the  
311 endorsement was received prior to October 15 in order to be  
312 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
313 year, or the licensed school counselor shall submit such  
314 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
315 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
316 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
317 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be  
318 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National  
319 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification  
320 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school counselors,  
321 and any school counselor receiving the salary supplement will be  
322 required to complete the Master Teacher certificate process under  
323 item (i) of this paragraph in order to continue receiving such  
324 salary supplement.

325 (iii) From and after July 1, 1999, any licensed  
326 speech-language pathologist and audiologist who has met the  
327 requirements and acquired a Certificate of Clinical Competence  
328 from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and who is  
329 employed by a local school board. Such licensed speech-language  
330 pathologist and audiologist shall submit documentation to the



331 State Department of Education that the certificate or endorsement  
332 was received prior to October 15 in order to be eligible for the  
333 full salary supplement in the current school year, or the licensed  
334 speech-language pathologist and audiologist shall submit such  
335 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
336 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
337 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
338 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be  
339 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National  
340 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification  
341 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school  
342 speech-language pathologists and audiologists, and any school  
343 speech-language pathologist and audiologist receiving the salary  
344 supplement will be required to complete the Master Teacher  
345 certificate process under item (i) of this paragraph in order to  
346 continue receiving such salary supplement.

347 (b) An employee shall be reimbursed one (1) time for  
348 the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
349 certificate or endorsement, excluding any costs incurred for  
350 postgraduate courses, not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)  
351 for a school counselor or speech-language pathologist and  
352 audiologist, regardless of whether or not the process resulted in  
353 the award of the certificate or endorsement. A local school  
354 district or any private individual or entity may pay the cost of  
355 completing the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement  
356 for any employee of the school district described under paragraph  
357 (a), and the State Department of Education shall reimburse the  
358 school district for such cost, regardless of whether or not the  
359 process resulted in the award of the certificate or endorsement.  
360 If a private individual or entity has paid the cost of completing  
361 the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement for an  
362 employee, the local school district may agree to directly



363 reimburse the individual or entity for such cost on behalf of the  
364 employee.

365 (c) All salary supplements, fringe benefits and process  
366 reimbursement authorized under this subsection shall be paid  
367 directly by the State Department of Education to the local school  
368 district and shall be in addition to its minimum education program  
369 allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with regulations  
370 promulgated by the State Board of Education, and subject to  
371 appropriation by the Legislature. Local school districts shall  
372 not reduce the local supplement paid to any employee receiving  
373 such salary supplement, and the employee shall receive any local  
374 supplement to which employees with similar training and experience  
375 otherwise are entitled.

376 (d) The State Department of Education may not pay any  
377 process reimbursement to a school district for an employee who  
378 does not complete the certification or endorsement process  
379 required to be eligible for the certificate or endorsement. If an  
380 employee for whom such cost has been paid in full or in part by a  
381 local school district or private individual or entity fails to  
382 complete the certification or endorsement process, the employee  
383 shall be liable to the school district or individual or entity for  
384 all amounts paid by the school district or individual or entity on  
385 behalf of that employee toward his or her certificate or  
386 endorsement.

387 SECTION 2. Section 37-19-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
388 amended as follows:

389 37-19-21. In addition to other funds allowed in this  
390 chapter, each school district shall be allotted Four Thousand Nine  
391 Hundred Sixty-three Dollars (\$4,963.00) annually per teacher unit  
392 for use in supportive services.

393 However, whenever the Sine Die general Fund revenue estimate  
394 for the succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at  
395 least five percent (5%) greater than the actual general Fund



396 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
397 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
398 each school district shall be allotted Five thousand Ninety-seven  
399 Dollars (\$5,097.00) per teacher unit for use in supportive  
400 services. \* \* \*

401 This section shall be repealed on July 1, 2002.

402 SECTION 3. Section 37-21-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
403 amended as follows:

404 37-21-7. (1) This section shall be referred to as the  
405 "Mississippi Elementary Schools Assistant Teacher Program," the  
406 purpose of which shall be to provide an early childhood education  
407 program that assists in the instruction of basic skills. The  
408 State Board of Education is authorized, empowered and directed to  
409 implement a statewide system of assistant teachers in kindergarten  
410 classes and in the first, second and third grades. The assistant  
411 teacher shall assist pupils in actual instruction under the strict  
412 supervision of a licensed teacher.

413 (2) (a) Except as otherwise authorized under subsection  
414 (7), each school district shall employ the total number of  
415 assistant teachers funded under subsection (6) of this section.  
416 The superintendent of each district shall assign the assistant  
417 teachers to the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade  
418 classes in the district in a manner that will promote the maximum  
419 efficiency, as determined by the superintendent, in the  
420 instruction of skills such as verbal and linguistic skills,  
421 logical and mathematical skills, and social skills.

422 (b) If a licensed teacher to whom an assistant teacher  
423 has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the  
424 assistant teacher may assume responsibility for the classroom in  
425 lieu of a substitute teacher. However, no assistant teacher shall  
426 assume sole responsibility of the classroom for more than three  
427 (3) consecutive school days. Further, in no event shall any  
428 assistant teacher be assigned to serve as a substitute teacher for



429 any teacher other than the licensed teacher to whom that assistant  
430 teacher has been assigned.

431 (3) Assistant teachers shall have, at a minimum, a high  
432 school diploma or a GED equivalent, and shall show demonstratable  
433 proficiency in reading and writing skills. The State Department  
434 of Education shall develop a testing procedure for assistant  
435 teacher applicants to be used in all school districts in the  
436 state.

437 (4) (a) In order to receive funding, each school district  
438 shall:

439 (i) Submit a plan on the implementation of a  
440 reading improvement program to the State Department of Education;  
441 and

442 (ii) Develop a plan of educational accountability  
443 and assessment of performance, including pretests and posttests,  
444 for reading in Grades 1 through 6.

445 (b) Additionally, each school district shall:

446 (i) Provide annually a mandatory preservice  
447 orientation session, using an existing in-school service day, for  
448 administrators and teachers on the effective use of assistant  
449 teachers as part of a team in the classroom setting and on the  
450 role of assistant teachers, with emphasis on program goals;

451 (ii) Hold periodic workshops for administrators  
452 and teachers on the effective use and supervision of assistant  
453 teachers;

454 (iii) Provide training annually on specific  
455 instructional skills for assistant teachers;

456 (iv) Annually evaluate their program in accordance  
457 with their educational accountability and assessment of  
458 performance plan; and

459 (v) Designate the necessary personnel to supervise  
460 and report on their program.

461 (5) The State Department of Education shall:



462 (a) Develop and assist in the implementation of a  
463 statewide uniform training module, subject to the availability of  
464 funds specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, which  
465 shall be used in all school districts for training administrators,  
466 teachers and assistant teachers. The module shall provide for the  
467 consolidated training of each assistant teacher and teacher to  
468 whom the assistant teacher is assigned, working together as a  
469 team, and shall require further periodical training for  
470 administrators, teachers and assistant teachers regarding the role  
471 of assistant teachers;

472 (b) Annually evaluate the program on the district and  
473 state level. Subject to the availability of funds specifically  
474 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the department shall  
475 develop: (i) uniform evaluation reports, to be performed by the  
476 principal or assistant principal, to collect data for the annual  
477 overall program evaluation conducted by the department; or (ii) a  
478 program evaluation model that, at a minimum, addresses process  
479 evaluation; and

480 (c) Promulgate rules, regulations and such other  
481 standards deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this  
482 section. Noncompliance with the provisions of this section and  
483 any rules, regulations or standards adopted by the department may  
484 result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards as  
485 established by the State Board of Education and Commission on  
486 School Accreditation.

487 (6) In addition to other funds allotted under the Minimum  
488 Education or Adequate Education Program, each school district  
489 shall be allotted sufficient funding for the purpose of employing  
490 an assistant teacher. \* \* \* No assistant teacher shall be paid  
491 less than the amount he or she received in the prior school year.  
492 No school district shall receive any funds under this section for  
493 any school year during which the aggregate amount of the local  
494 contribution to the salaries of assistant teachers by the district



495 shall have been reduced below such amount for the previous  
496 year. \* \* \*

497 The minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Nine  
498 Thousand One Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$9,115.00).

499 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
500 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least five  
501 percent (5%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
502 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
503 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
504 minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Nine Thousand Three  
505 Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$9,365.00).

506 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
507 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least ten  
508 percent (10%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
509 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
510 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
511 minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Nine Thousand Nine  
512 Hundred Dollars (\$9,900.00).

513 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
514 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
515 fifteen percent (15%) greater than the actual General Fund  
516 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
517 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
518 the minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Ten Thousand  
519 Five Hundred Dollars (\$10,500.00).

520 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
521 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
522 twenty percent (20%) greater than the actual General Fund revenues  
523 collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified by the  
524 Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education, the  
525 minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Eleven Thousand Two  
526 Hundred Dollars (\$11,200.00).



527 Whenever the Sine Die General Fund revenue estimate for the  
528 succeeding fiscal year reflects an increase that is at least  
529 twenty-five percent (25%) greater than the actual General Fund  
530 revenues collected during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, as certified  
531 by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of Education,  
532 the minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Twelve Thousand  
533 Dollars (\$12,000.00).

534 \* \* \* The assistant teachers shall not be restricted to  
535 working only in the grades for which the funds were allotted, but  
536 may be assigned to other classes as provided in subsection (2) (a)  
537 of this section.

538 (7) (a) As an alternative to employing assistant teachers,  
539 any school district may use the \* \* \* allotment provided under  
540 subsection (6) of this section for the purpose of employing  
541 licensed teachers for kindergarten, first-, second- and  
542 third-grade classes; however, no school district shall be  
543 authorized to use the \* \* \* allotment for assistant teachers for  
544 the purpose of employing licensed teachers unless the district has  
545 established that the employment of licensed teachers using such  
546 funds will reduce the teacher:student ratio in the kindergarten,  
547 first-, second- and third-grade classes. All state funds for  
548 assistant teachers shall be applied to reducing teacher:student  
549 ratio in Grades K-3.

550 It is the intent of the Legislature that no school district  
551 shall dismiss any assistant teacher for the purpose of using  
552 the \* \* \* assistant teacher allotment to employ licensed teachers.  
553 School districts may rely only upon normal attrition to reduce the  
554 number of assistant teachers employed in that district.

555 (b) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5  
556 accreditation requirements, the State Board of Education, in its  
557 discretion, may exempt such school district from any accreditation  
558 requirements for the district's early childhood education program  
559 or reading improvement program.



560 \* \* \*

561 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
562 and after July 1, 2001.

