

By: Representative Eads

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 264
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-6-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 ESTABLISH MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF LOCAL
3 SCHOOL BOARDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-6-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 37-6-13. (1) Each person serving as a member of the school
8 board of any school district shall receive per diem in the amount
9 of Sixty-seven Dollars (\$67.00) for no more than thirty-six (36)
10 meetings of the school board during any one (1) fiscal year or, in
11 his or her discretion, irrevocably may choose to receive as
12 compensation for his or her services an annual salary in the
13 amount of Two Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400.00), which
14 choice shall remain in force for all successive terms or periods
15 of service of that member. The receipt of the compensation shall
16 not entitle any member of a school board to receive or be eligible
17 for any state employee group insurance, retirement or other fringe
18 benefits. Each member shall be reimbursed for the necessary
19 expenses and mileage in attending meetings of the school board.
20 In addition to the foregoing, all members may be reimbursed for
21 mileage and actual expenses incurred in the further performance of
22 their duties, including attendance at any mandatory school board
23 training session or at regional and national education meetings,
24 when such mileage and other expenses are authorized by the board
25 prior to the date on which they occur. Detailed vouchers shall be
26 submitted for reimbursement for all expenses authorized by this



27 section. Such reimbursement shall be in accordance with Section
28 25-3-41.

29 Such expenses shall be paid on order of the school board by
30 pay certificates issued by the superintendent of the school
31 district involved against the funds available for payment of the
32 administrative expense of the district.

33 (2) (a) If a member of a school board misses twenty percent
34 (20%) or more of the meetings of the school board during a
35 calendar year, except for absences caused by required military
36 duty, the member must reimburse the school district that portion
37 of the total salary paid to the member that year which is
38 proportionate to the number of meetings missed by the member in
39 relation to the total number of school board meetings held during
40 that year. For purposes of this subsection, consideration may be
41 given only to meetings of which public notice is required.

42 (b) Before February 1 of each year, the president of
43 each local school board shall submit a report to the State Board
44 of Education containing the names of any members of the school
45 board who missed twenty percent (20%) or more of the school board
46 meetings during the preceding calendar year.

47 **SECTION 2.** The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
48 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
49 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
50 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
51 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
52 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
53 extended.

54 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
55 and after January 1, 2003, if it is effectuated on or before that
56 date under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended
57 and extended. If it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
58 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended, after January 1,
59 2003, this act shall take effect and be in force from and after



60 the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting Rights
61 Act of 1965, as amended and extended.

