

By: Representatives Warren, Scott (17th)

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 285

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 2002-2003 school year,
6 the assignment of school guidance counselors in Grades K-12 to the
7 particular schools within a school district is at the discretion
8 of the local school board with the following restrictions:

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

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

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

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



28 (i) Follow-up counseling services.

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

32 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
33 and after July 1, 2002.

