

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2441  
(As Sent to Governor)

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

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

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year,  
5 the assignment of K-12 school guidance counselors to the  
6 particular schools within the district shall be at the discretion  
7 of the local school board with the following restrictions:

8 (a) No individual shall be employed as a school  
9 guidance counselor without a minimum of a Master's Degree in  
10 Guidance and Counseling, or in an emergency situation, an  
11 appropriate certification as determined by the Commission on  
12 Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure  
13 and Development; and

14 (b) School guidance counselors shall provide the  
15 following comprehensive counseling services:

- 16 (i) Academic and personal/social counseling;
- 17 (ii) Student assessment and assessment counseling;
- 18 (iii) Career and educational counseling;
- 19 (iv) Individual and group counseling  
20 (large/small);
- 21 (v) Crisis intervention and preventive counseling;
- 22 (vi) Referrals to community agencies;
- 23 (vii) Educational consultations and collaboration  
24 with teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders;
- 25 (viii) Educational and career placement services;
- 26 (ix) Follow-up counseling services;
- 27 (x) Conflict resolution; and



28                           (xi) Other counseling duties or other duties as  
29 assigned by the school principal.

30           (2) School guidance counselors shall abide by the American  
31 School Counselor Association Code of Ethics.

32           (3) The State Department of Education may adopt regulations  
33 regarding the activities of the school guidance counselor as are  
34 not inconsistent with this section.

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

