

By: Representatives Evans, Holland, Watson

To: Education;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 721

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-151-77, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE FOR A MAXIMUM PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO FOR KINDERGARTEN
3 THROUGH GRADE 3 IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-151-77, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 37-151-77. To qualify for funds provided in this chapter,
8 each school district shall not exceed a pupil-teacher ratio based
9 on enrollment in kindergarten through Grades 1, 2 and 3 * * * as
10 follows: 19:1 by the beginning of the school year 2005-2006 and
11 16:1 by the beginning of the school year 2007-2008 and every
12 school year thereafter.

13 For Grades 4 through 12, pupil-teacher ratio shall be
14 determined based on appropriate accreditation standards developed
15 by the Mississippi Commission on School Accreditation.

16 * * * If a school district violates the provisions of this
17 section, the state aid for the ensuing fiscal year to such school
18 district shall be reduced by the percentage variance that the
19 actual pupil-teacher ratios in such school district has to the
20 required pupil-teacher ratios mandated in this section. * * *

21 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
22 and after January 1, 2004, provided that House Concurrent
23 Resolution No. ____, 2003 Regular Session, is ratified by the
24 electorate.

