SENATE BILL NO. 2391

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-6-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS OF A SCHOOL BOARD WHO RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SALARY AS COMPENSATION FOR HIS OR HER SERVICES SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

37-6-13. (1) Each person serving as a member of the school board of any school district shall receive per diem in the amount of Sixty-seven Dollars ($67.00) for no more than thirty-six (36) meetings of the school board during any one (1) fiscal year or, in his or her discretion, irrevocably may choose to receive as compensation for his or her services an annual salary in the amount of Two Thousand Four Hundred Dollars ($2,400.00), which choice shall remain in force for all successive terms or periods of service of that member. The receipt of an annual salary as compensation for his or her services shall not entitle any member of a school board to receive or be eligible for any state employee group insurance or other fringe benefits except retirement. Each member shall be reimbursed for the necessary expenses and mileage in attending meetings of the school board. In addition to the foregoing, all members may be reimbursed for mileage and actual expenses incurred in the further performance of their duties, including attendance at any mandatory school board training session or at regional and national education meetings, when such mileage and other expenses are authorized by the board prior to the date on which they occur. Detailed vouchers shall be
submitted for reimbursement for all expenses authorized by this
section. Such reimbursement shall be in accordance with Section
25-3-41.

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

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

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

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2003.