

By: Representatives Fillingane, Lott

To: Education;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 737

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT A LICENSED ATHLETIC TRAINER WHO HAS MET THE
3 REQUIREMENTS AND ACQUIRED A NATIONAL CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINER
4 (NCAT) CERTIFICATE FROM THE NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS ASSOCIATION
5 BOARD OF CERTIFICATION, INC., AND WHO IS EMPLOYED BY A LOCAL
6 SCHOOL BOARD OR THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS AN ATHLETIC
7 TRAINER AND NOT AS AN ADMINISTRATOR SHALL RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SALARY
8 SUPPLEMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-19-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 37-19-7. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
13 as the Mississippi "Teacher Opportunity Program (TOP)." The
14 allowance in the minimum education program and the Mississippi
15 Adequate Education Program for teachers' salaries in each county
16 and separate school district shall be determined and paid in
17 accordance with the scale for teachers' salaries as provided in
18 this subsection. For teachers holding the following types of
19 licenses or the equivalent as determined by the State Board of
20 Education, and the following number of years of teaching
21 experience, the scale shall be as follows:

22 * * *

23 **2004-2005 School Year**

24 **Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience**

25	AAAA.....	\$ 31,775.00
26	AAA.....	30,850.00
27	AA.....	29,925.00
28	A.....	28,000.00

29 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

30	AAAA.....	\$ 33,775.00
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31	AAA.....	32,850.00
32	AA.....	31,925.00
33	A.....	30,000.00

34 The State Board of Education shall revise the salary scale
35 prescribed above for the 2004-2005 school year to conform to any
36 adjustments made to the salary scale in prior fiscal years due to
37 revenue growth over and above five percent (5%). For each one
38 percent (1%) that the Sine Die General Fund Revenue Estimate
39 Growth exceeds five percent (5%) for fiscal year 2005, as
40 certified by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of
41 Education and subject to specific appropriation therefor by the
42 Legislature, the State Board of Education shall revise the salary
43 scale to provide an additional one percent (1%) across the board
44 increase in the base salaries for each type of license.

45 **2005-2006 School Year and School Years Thereafter**

46 **Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience**

47	AAAA.....	\$ 34,000.00
48	AAA.....	33,000.00
49	AA.....	32,000.00
50	A.....	30,000.00

51 **25 or More Years of Teaching Experience**

52	AAAA.....	\$ 36,000.00
53	AAA.....	35,000.00
54	AA.....	34,000.00
55	A.....	32,000.00

56 The State Board of Education shall revise the salary scale
57 prescribed above for the 2005-2006 school year to conform to any
58 adjustments made to the salary scale in prior fiscal years due to
59 revenue growth over and above five percent (5%). For each one
60 percent (1%) that the Sine Die General Fund Revenue Estimate
61 Growth exceeds five percent (5%) for fiscal year 2006, as
62 certified by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of
63 Education and subject to specific appropriation therefor by the

64 Legislature, the State Board of Education shall revise the salary
65 scale to provide an additional one percent (1%) across the board
66 increase in the base salaries for each type of license.

67 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made
68 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the
69 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall
70 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal
71 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of
72 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority
73 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to
74 establish, administer and maintain the system.

75 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a
76 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no
77 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any
78 school year during which the local supplement paid to any
79 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that
80 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties
81 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school
82 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health
83 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the
84 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered a
85 part of the amount of individual local supplement.

86 * * *

87 **2004-2005 School Year Annual Increment**

88 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base
89 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
90 Seven Hundred Forty Dollars (\$740.00) for each year of teaching
91 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
92 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

93 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base
94 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
95 Six Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$675.00) for each year of
96 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license

97 until such person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching
98 experience.

99 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay
100 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six
101 Hundred Ten Dollars (\$610.00) for each year of teaching experience
102 possessed by the person holding such license until such person
103 shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

104 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay
105 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four
106 Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$465.00) for each year of teaching
107 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
108 person shall have twenty-four (24) years of teaching experience.

109 **2005-2006 School Year**

110 **and School Years Thereafter Annual Increments**

111 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base
112 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
113 Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$770.00) for each year of teaching
114 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
115 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

116 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base
117 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of
118 Seven Hundred Five Dollars (\$705.00) for each year of teaching
119 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
120 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

121 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay
122 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six
123 Hundred Forty Dollars (\$640.00) for each year of teaching
124 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
125 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

126 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay
127 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Four
128 Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$480.00) for each year of teaching

129 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such
130 person shall have twenty-four (24) years of teaching experience.

131 The level of professional training of each teacher to be used
132 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each
133 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license
134 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current
135 school year.

136 (2) (a) The following employees shall receive an annual
137 salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars
138 (\$6,000.00), plus fringe benefits, in addition to any other
139 compensation to which the employee may be entitled:

140 (i) Any licensed teacher who has met the
141 requirements and acquired a Master Teacher certificate from the
142 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and who is
143 employed by a local school board or the State Board of Education
144 as a teacher and not as an administrator. Such teacher shall
145 submit documentation to the State Department of Education that the
146 certificate was received before October 15 in order to be eligible
147 for the full salary supplement in the current school year, or the
148 teacher shall submit such documentation to the State Department of
149 Education before February 15 in order to be eligible for a
150 prorated salary supplement beginning with the second term of the
151 school year.

152 (ii) Any licensed school counselor who has met the
153 requirements and acquired a National Certified School Counselor
154 (NCSC) endorsement from the National Board of Certified Counselors
155 and who is employed by a local school board or the State Board of
156 Education as a counselor and not as an administrator. Such
157 licensed school counselor shall submit documentation to the State
158 Department of Education that the endorsement was received before
159 October 15 in order to be eligible for the full salary supplement
160 in the current school year, or the licensed school counselor shall
161 submit such documentation to the State Department of Education

162 before February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary
163 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.
164 However, the salary supplement authorized under this item shall be
165 discontinued two (2) years after the date on which the National
166 Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a certification
167 process for a Master Teacher certificate for school counselors,
168 and any school counselor receiving the salary supplement will be
169 required to complete the Master Teacher certificate process under
170 item (i) of this paragraph in order to continue receiving such
171 salary supplement.

172 (iii) Any licensed speech-language pathologist and
173 audiologist who has met the requirements and acquired a
174 Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American
175 Speech-Language-Hearing Association and who is employed by a local
176 school board. Such licensed speech-language pathologist and
177 audiologist shall submit documentation to the State Department of
178 Education that the certificate or endorsement was received before
179 October 15 in order to be eligible for the full salary supplement
180 in the current school year, or the licensed speech-language
181 pathologist and audiologist shall submit such documentation to the
182 State Department of Education before February 15 in order to be
183 eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the
184 second term of the school year. However, the salary supplement
185 authorized under this item shall be discontinued two (2) years
186 after the date on which the National Board for Professional
187 Teaching Standards offers a certification process for a Master
188 Teacher certificate for school speech-language pathologists and
189 audiologists, and any school speech-language pathologist and
190 audiologist receiving the salary supplement will be required to
191 complete the Master Teacher certificate process under item (i) of
192 this paragraph in order to continue receiving such salary
193 supplement.

194 (iv) Any licensed athletic trainer who has met the
195 requirements and acquired a National Certified Athletic Trainer
196 (NCAT) certificate from the National Athletic Trainers Association
197 Board of Certification, Inc., and who is employed by a local
198 school board or the State Board of Education as an athletic
199 trainer and not as an administrator. The licensed athletic
200 trainer shall submit documentation to the State Department of
201 Education that the certificate was received before October 15 in
202 order to be eligible for the full salary supplement in the current
203 school year, or the licensed athletic trainer shall submit the
204 documentation to the State Department of Education before February
205 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary supplement
206 beginning with the second term of the school year.

207 (b) An employee shall be reimbursed one (1) time for
208 the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring the
209 certificate or endorsement, excluding any costs incurred for
210 postgraduate courses, not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)
211 for a school counselor or speech-language pathologist and
212 audiologist, regardless of whether or not the process resulted in
213 the award of the certificate or endorsement. A local school
214 district or any private individual or entity may pay the cost of
215 completing the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement
216 for any employee of the school district described under paragraph
217 (a), and the State Department of Education shall reimburse the
218 school district for such cost, regardless of whether or not the
219 process resulted in the award of the certificate or endorsement.
220 If a private individual or entity has paid the cost of completing
221 the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement for an
222 employee, the local school district may agree to directly
223 reimburse the individual or entity for such cost on behalf of the
224 employee.

225 (c) All salary supplements, fringe benefits and process
226 reimbursement authorized under this subsection shall be paid

227 directly by the State Department of Education to the local school
228 district and shall be in addition to its minimum education program
229 allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with regulations
230 promulgated by the State Board of Education, and subject to
231 appropriation by the Legislature. Local school districts shall
232 not reduce the local supplement paid to any employee receiving
233 such salary supplement, and the employee shall receive any local
234 supplement to which employees with similar training and experience
235 otherwise are entitled.

236 (d) The State Department of Education may not pay any
237 process reimbursement to a school district for an employee who
238 does not complete the certification or endorsement process
239 required to be eligible for the certificate or endorsement. If an
240 employee for whom such cost has been paid in full or in part by a
241 local school district or private individual or entity fails to
242 complete the certification or endorsement process, the employee
243 shall be liable to the school district or individual or entity for
244 all amounts paid by the school district or individual or entity on
245 behalf of that employee toward his or her certificate or
246 endorsement.

247 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
248 and after July 1, 2004.