

By: Representative Carlton

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 905

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-79, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN
3 NOTIFICATION TO ALL STUDENTS ENTERING THE NINTH GRADE AND ALL
4 TRANSFERRING STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 THROUGH 12 OF THE CURRICULUM
5 REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS TO RECEIVE TUITION ASSISTANCE; AND FOR
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-9-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 37-9-79. (1) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, the
11 assignment of K-12 School Guidance Counselors to the particular
12 schools within the district shall be at the discretion of the
13 local school board with the following restrictions:

14 (a) No individual shall be employed as a school
15 guidance counselor without a minimum of a Master's Degree in
16 Guidance and Counseling, or in an emergency situation, an
17 appropriate certification as determined by the Commission on
18 Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure
19 and Development; and

20 (b) School guidance counselors shall provide the
21 following comprehensive counseling services:

- 22 (i) Academic and personal/social counseling;
- 23 (ii) Student assessment and assessment counseling;
- 24 (iii) Career and educational counseling;
- 25 (iv) Individual and group counseling
26 (large/small);
- 27 (v) Crisis intervention and preventive counseling;
- 28 (vi) Referrals to community agencies;

29 (vii) Educational consultations and collaboration
30 with teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders;
31 (viii) Educational and career placement services;
32 (ix) Follow-up counseling services;
33 (x) Conflict resolution; and
34 (xi) Other counseling duties or other duties as
35 assigned by the school principal.

36 (c) School guidance counselors shall provide written
37 notification to all students entering the ninth grade and to all
38 students transferring into the public school system in Grades 9
39 through 12 of the curriculum requirements for students to receive
40 tuition assistance under Section 37-157-1.

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

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

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