By: Representative Guice

To: Education

## HOUSE BILL NO. 593

1	AN	ACT	TO	AMEND	SECT	ION	37-3-	-2,	ΜI	SSISSIP	PΙ	CODE	OF	197	2,	ТО
2	REQUIRE	CERT	rain	TEACH	IERS	TO (	COMPLE	ETE	Α	COLLEGE-	-LE	CVEL (	COUR	SE	IN	
3	AMERICAN	N HIS	STOR	RY; ANI	FOR	RE:	LATED	PUF	RPC	SES.						

- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-3-2, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 6 amended as follows:
- 7 37-3-2. (1) There is established within the State
- 8 Department of Education the Commission on Teacher and
- 9 Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and
- 10 Development. It shall be the purpose and duty of the commission
- 11 to make recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding
- 12 standards for the certification and licensure and continuing
- 13 professional development of those who teach or perform tasks of an
- 14 educational nature in the public schools of Mississippi.
- 15 (2) The commission shall be composed of fifteen (15)
- 16 qualified members. The membership of the commission shall be
- 17 composed of the following members to be appointed, three (3) from
- 18 each congressional district: four (4) classroom teachers; three
- 19 (3) school administrators; one (1) representative of schools of
- 20 education of institutions of higher learning located within the
- 21 state to be recommended by the Board of Trustees of State
- 22 Institutions of Higher Learning; one (1) representative from the
- 23 schools of education of independent institutions of higher
- 24 learning to be recommended by the Board of the Mississippi
- 25 Association of Independent Colleges; one (1) representative from
- 26 public community and junior colleges located within the state to
- 27 be recommended by the State Board for Community and Junior

- 28 Colleges; one (1) local school board member; and four (4) lay
- 29 persons. All appointments shall be made by the State Board of
- 30 Education after consultation with the State Superintendent of
- 31 Public Education. The first appointments by the State Board of
- 32 Education shall be made as follows: five (5) members shall be
- 33 appointed for a term of one (1) year; five (5) members shall be
- 34 appointed for a term of two (2) years; and five (5) members shall
- 35 be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, all
- 36 members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years.
- 37 (3) The State Board of Education when making appointments
- 38 shall designate a chairman. The commission shall meet at least
- 39 once every two (2) months or more often if needed. Members of the
- 40 commission shall be compensated at a rate of per diem as
- 41 authorized by Section 25-3-69 and be reimbursed for actual and
- 42 necessary expenses as authorized by Section 25-3-41.
- 43 (4) An appropriate staff member of the State Department of
- 44 Education shall be designated and assigned by the State
- 45 Superintendent of Public Education to serve as executive secretary
- 46 and coordinator for the commission. No less than two (2) other
- 47 appropriate staff members of the State Department of Education
- 48 shall be designated and assigned by the State Superintendent of
- 49 Public Education to serve on the staff of the commission.
- 50 (5) It shall be the duty of the commission to:
- 51 (a) Set standards and criteria, subject to the approval
- 52 of the State Board of Education, for all educator preparation
- 53 programs in the state;
- 54 (b) Recommend to the State Board of Education each year
- 55 approval or disapproval of each educator preparation program in
- 56 the state;
- 57 (c) Establish, subject to the approval of the State
- 58 Board of Education, standards for initial teacher certification
- 59 and licensure in all fields;

- (d) Establish, subject to the approval of the State
- 61 Board of Education, standards for the renewal of teacher licenses
- 62 in all fields;
- (e) Review and evaluate objective measures of teacher
- 64 performance, such as test scores, which may form part of the
- 65 licensure process, and to make recommendations for their use;
- (f) Review all existing requirements for certification
- 67 and licensure;
- 68 (g) Consult with groups whose work may be affected by
- 69 the commission's decisions;
- 70 (h) Prepare reports from time to time on current
- 71 practices and issues in the general area of teacher education and
- 72 certification and licensure;
- 73 (i) Hold hearings concerning standards for teachers'
- 74 and administrators' education and certification and licensure with
- 75 approval of the State Board of Education;
- 76 (j) Hire expert consultants with approval of the State
- 77 Board of Education;
- 78 (k) Set up ad hoc committees to advise on specific
- 79 areas; and
- 80 (1) Perform such other functions as may fall within
- 81 their general charge and which may be delegated to them by the
- 82 State Board of Education.
- 83 (6) (a) Standard License Approved Program Route. An
- 84 educator entering the school system of Mississippi for the first
- 85 time and meeting all requirements as established by the State
- 86 Board of Education shall be granted a standard five-year license.
- 87 Persons who possess two (2) years of classroom experience as an
- 88 assistant teacher or who have taught for one (1) year in an
- 89 accredited public or private school shall be allowed to fulfill
- 90 student teaching requirements under the supervision of a qualified
- 91 participating teacher approved by an accredited college of
- 92 education. The local school district in which the assistant

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     the required salary level during the period of time such
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     individual is completing student teaching requirements.
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     Applicants for a standard license shall submit to the department:
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                    (i) An application on a department form;
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                    (ii) An official transcript of completion of a
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     teacher education program approved by the department or a
     nationally accredited program, subject to the following:
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     Licensure to teach in Mississippi prekindergarten through
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     kindergarten classrooms shall require completion of a teacher
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     education program or a bachelor of science degree with child
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     development emphasis from a program accredited by the American
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     Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) or by the
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     National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC) or by
     the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
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     (NCATE). Licensure to teach in Mississippi kindergarten, for
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     those applicants who have completed a teacher education program,
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     and in Grade 1 through Grade 4 shall require the completion of an
     interdisciplinary program of studies. Licenses for Grades 4
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     through 8 shall require the completion of an interdisciplinary
     program of studies with two (2) or more areas of concentration.
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     Licensure to teach in Mississippi Grades 7 through 12 shall
     require a major in an academic field other than education, or a
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     combination of disciplines other than education. Students
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     preparing to teach a subject shall complete a major in the
     respective subject discipline. From and after the effective date
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     of House Bill No. _____, 2005 Regular Session, any licensed teacher
     hired to teach in Mississippi kindergarten through Mississippi
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     Grade 8 shall have completed a college-level course in American
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     History. Any person already teaching or hired to teach in
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     Mississippi kindergarten through Mississippi Grade 8 on or before
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     the effective date of House Bill No._____, 2005 Regular Session, is
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     exempt from this requirement. All applicants for standard
                       *HR03/R225*
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teacher is employed shall compensate such assistant teachers at

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H. B. No. 593 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 4 (CTE\LH) 126 licensure shall demonstrate that such person's college preparation 127 in those fields was in accordance with the standards set forth by 128 the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education 129 (NCATE) or the National Association of State Directors of Teacher 130 Education and Certification (NASDTEC) or, for those applicants who 131 have a bachelor of science degree with child development emphasis, the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS); 132 (iii) A copy of test scores evidencing 133 satisfactory completion of nationally administered examinations of 134 135 achievement, such as the Educational Testing Service's teacher 136 testing examinations; and (iv) Any other document required by the State 137 138 Board of Education. Standard License - Nontraditional Teaching Route. 139 (b) Beginning January 1, 2004, an individual who has a passing score 140 on the Praxis I Basic Skills and Praxis II Specialty Area Test in 141 142 the requested area of endorsement may apply for the Teach 143 Mississippi Institute (TMI) program to teach students in Grades 7 144 through 12 if the individual meets the requirements of this 145 paragraph (b). The State Board of Education shall adopt rules 146 requiring that teacher preparation institutions which provide the 147 Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) program for the preparation of nontraditional teachers shall meet the standards and comply with 148 149 the provisions of this paragraph. 150 The Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) shall include an intensive eight-week, nine-semester-hour summer program 151 152 or a curriculum of study in which the student matriculates in the 153 fall or spring semester, which shall include, but not be limited to, instruction in education, effective teaching strategies, 154 classroom management, state curriculum requirements, planning and 155 156 instruction, instructional methods and pedagogy, using test 157 results to improve instruction, and a one (1) semester three-hour supervised internship to be completed while the teacher is 158

\*HR03/R225\*

H. B. No. 593 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 5 (CTE\LH)

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employed as a full-time teacher intern in a local school district.
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     The TMI shall be implemented on a pilot program basis, with
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     courses to be offered at up to four (4) locations in the state,
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     with one (1) TMI site to be located in each of the three (3)
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     Mississippi Supreme Court districts.
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                    (ii) The school sponsoring the teacher intern
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     shall enter into a written agreement with the institution
     providing the Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) program, under
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     terms and conditions as agreed upon by the contracting parties,
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     providing that the school district shall provide teacher interns
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     seeking a nontraditional provisional teaching license with a
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     one-year classroom teaching experience. The teacher intern shall
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     successfully complete the one (1) semester three-hour intensive
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     internship in the school district during the semester immediately
     following successful completion of the TMI and prior to the end of
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     the one-year classroom teaching experience.
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                    (iii) Upon completion of the nine-semester-hour
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     TMI or the fall or spring semester option, the individual shall
     submit his transcript to the commission for provisional licensure
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     of the intern teacher, and the intern teacher shall be issued a
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     provisional teaching license by the commission, which will allow
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     the individual to legally serve as a teacher while the person
     completes a nontraditional teacher preparation internship program.
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                    (iv) During the semester of internship in the
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     school district, the teacher preparation institution shall monitor
     the performance of the intern teacher. The school district that
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     employs the provisional teacher shall supervise the provisional
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     teacher during the teacher's intern year of employment under a
     nontraditional provisional license, and shall, in consultation
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     with the teacher intern's mentor at the school district of
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     employment, submit to the commission a comprehensive evaluation of
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     the teacher's performance sixty (60) days prior to the expiration
     of the nontraditional provisional license.
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                                                 If the comprehensive
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\*HR03/R225\*

H. B. No. 593 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 6 (CTE\LH)

evaluation establishes that the provisional teacher intern's 192 193 performance fails to meet the standards of the approved 194 nontraditional teacher preparation internship program, the 195 individual shall not be approved for a standard license. 196 (v) An individual issued a provisional teaching 197 license under this nontraditional route shall successfully 198 complete, at a minimum, a one-year beginning teacher mentoring and induction program administered by the employing school district 199 200 with the assistance of the State Department of Education. 201 (vi) Upon successful completion of the TMI and the 202 internship provisional license period, applicants for a Standard License-Nontraditional Route shall submit to the commission a 203 204 transcript of successful completion of the twelve (12) semester 205 hours required in the internship program, and the employing school 206 district shall submit to the commission a recommendation for 207 standard licensure of the intern. If the school district recommends licensure, the applicant shall be issued a Standard 208 209 License-Nontraditional Route which shall be valid for a five-year period and be renewable. 210 211 (vii) At the discretion of the teacher preparation institution, the individual shall be allowed to credit the twelve 212 213 (12) semester hours earned in the nontraditional teacher internship program toward the graduate hours required for a Master 214 215 of Arts in Teacher (MAT) Degree. 216 (viii) The local school district in which the nontraditional teacher intern or provisional licensee is employed 217 218 shall compensate such teacher interns at Step 1 of the required salary level during the period of time such individual is 219 completing teacher internship requirements and shall compensate 220 such Standard License-Nontraditional Route teachers at Step 3 of 221

the required salary level when they complete license requirements.

Implementation of the TMI program provided for under this 223 224 paragraph (b) shall be contingent upon the availability of funds 225 appropriated specifically for such purpose by the Legislature. 226 Such implementation of the TMI program may not be deemed to 227 prohibit the State Board of Education from developing and 228 implementing additional alternative route teacher licensure 229 programs, as deemed appropriate by the board. The emergency 230 certification program in effect prior to July 1, 2002, shall 231 remain in effect. The State Department of Education shall compile and report, 232 233 in consultation with the commission, information relating to nontraditional teacher preparation internship programs, including 234 235 the number of programs available and geographic areas in which they are available, the number of individuals who apply for and 236 237 possess a nontraditional conditional license, the subject areas in 238 which individuals who possess nontraditional conditional licenses 239 are teaching and where they are teaching, and shall submit its 240 findings and recommendations to the legislative committees on education by December 1, 2004. 241 242 A Standard License - Approved Program Route shall be issued 243 for a five-year period, and may be renewed. Recognizing teaching 244 as a profession, a hiring preference shall be granted to persons 245 holding a Standard License - Approved Program Route or Standard 246 License - Nontraditional Teaching Route over persons holding any 247 other license. 248 Special License - Expert Citizen. (C) In order to 249 allow a school district to offer specialized or technical courses, 250 the State Department of Education, in accordance with rules and regulations established by the State Board of Education, may grant 251 252 a one-year expert citizen-teacher license to local business or 253 other professional personnel to teach in a public school or 254 nonpublic school accredited or approved by the state. Such person

may begin teaching upon his employment by the local school board

H. B. No. 593 \*HRO3/R225\* 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 8 (CTE\LH)

- 256 and licensure by the Mississippi Department of Education. The
- 257 board shall adopt rules and regulations to administer the expert
- 258 citizen-teacher license. A special license expert citizen may
- 259 be renewed in accordance with the established rules and
- 260 regulations of the State Department of Education.
- 261 (d) Special License Nonrenewable. The State Board of
- 262 Education is authorized to establish rules and regulations to
- 263 allow those educators not meeting requirements in subsection
- 264 (6)(a), (b) or (c) to be licensed for a period of not more than
- 265 three (3) years, except by special approval of the State Board of
- 266 Education.
- 267 (e) Nonlicensed Teaching Personnel. A nonlicensed
- 268 person may teach for a maximum of three (3) periods per teaching
- 269 day in a public school or a nonpublic school accredited/approved
- 270 by the state. Such person shall submit to the department a
- 271 transcript or record of his education and experience which
- 272 substantiates his preparation for the subject to be taught and
- 273 shall meet other qualifications specified by the commission and
- 274 approved by the State Board of Education. In no case shall any
- 275 local school board hire nonlicensed personnel as authorized under
- 276 this paragraph in excess of five percent (5%) of the total number
- 277 of licensed personnel in any single school.
- 278 (f) Special License Transitional Bilingual Education.
- 279 Beginning July 1, 2003, the commission shall grant special
- 280 licenses to teachers of transitional bilingual education who
- 281 possess such qualifications as are prescribed in this section.
- 282 Teachers of transitional bilingual education shall be compensated
- 283 by local school boards at not less than one (1) step on the
- 284 regular salary schedule applicable to permanent teachers licensed
- 285 under this section. The commission shall grant special licenses
- 286 to teachers of transitional bilingual education who present the
- 287 commission with satisfactory evidence that they (i) possess a
- 288 speaking and reading ability in a language, other than English, in

which bilingual education is offered and communicative skills in 289 290 English; (ii) are in good health and sound moral character; (iii) 291 possess a bachelor's degree or an associate's degree in teacher 292 education from an accredited institution of higher education; (iv) 293 meet such requirements as to courses of study, semester hours 294 therein, experience and training as may be required by the 295 commission; and (v) are legally present in the United States and 296 possess legal authorization for employment. A teacher of 297 transitional bilingual education serving under a special license 298 shall be under an exemption from standard licensure if he achieves 299 the requisite qualifications therefor. Two (2) years of service by a teacher of transitional bilingual education under such an 300 301 exemption shall be credited to the teacher in acquiring a Standard 302 Educator License. Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to 303 prohibit a local school board from employing a teacher licensed in 304 an appropriate field as approved by the State Department of 305 Education to teach in a program in transitional bilingual 306 education.

- 307 (g) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5
  308 accreditation standards, the State Board of Education, in its
  309 discretion, may exempt such school district from any restrictions
  310 in paragraph (e) relating to the employment of nonlicensed
  311 teaching personnel.
- 312 (7) Administrator License. The State Board of Education is 313 authorized to establish rules and regulations and to administer 314 the licensure process of the school administrators in the State of 315 Mississippi. There will be four (4) categories of administrator 316 licensure with exceptions only through special approval of the 317 State Board of Education.
- 318 (a) Administrator License Nonpracticing. Those 319 educators holding administrative endorsement but have no 320 administrative experience or not serving in an administrative 321 position on January 15, 1997.

322	(b) Administrator License - Entry Level. Those
323	educators holding administrative endorsement and having met the
324	department's qualifications to be eligible for employment in a
325	Mississippi school district. Administrator license - entry level
326	shall be issued for a five-year period and shall be nonrenewable.
327	(c) Standard Administrator License - Career Level. An
328	administrator who has met all the requirements of the department
329	for standard administrator licensure.
330	(d) Administrator License - Nontraditional Route. The
331	board may establish a nontraditional route for licensing
332	administrative personnel. Such nontraditional route for
333	administrative licensure shall be available for persons holding,
334	but not limited to, a master of business administration degree, a
335	master of public administration degree, a master of public
336	planning and policy degree or a doctor of jurisprudence degree
337	from an accredited college or university, with five (5) years of
338	administrative or supervisory experience. Successful completion
339	of the requirements of alternate route licensure for
340	administrators shall qualify the person for a standard
341	administrator license.
342	The State Department of Education shall compile and report,
343	in consultation with the commission, information relating to
344	nontraditional administrator preparation internship programs,
345	including the number of programs available and geographic areas in
346	which they are available, the number of individuals who apply for
347	and possess a nontraditional conditional license and where they
348	are employed, and shall submit its findings and recommendations to
349	the legislative committees on education by December 1, 2004.
350	Beginning with the 1997-1998 school year, individuals seeking
351	school administrator licensure under paragraph (b), (c) or (d)
352	shall successfully complete a training program and an assessment
353	process prescribed by the State Board of Education. Applicants
354	seeking school administrator licensure prior to June 30, 1997, and
	H. B. No. 593 *HRO3/R225* 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 11 (CTE\LH)

355 completing all requirements for provisional or standard 356 administrator certification and who have never practiced, shall be 357 exempt from taking the Mississippi Assessment Battery Phase I. 358 Applicants seeking school administrator licensure during the 359 period beginning July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998, shall 360 participate in the Mississippi Assessment Battery, and upon 361 request of the applicant, the department shall reimburse the applicant for the cost of the assessment process required. After 362 363 June 30, 1998, all applicants for school administrator licensure 364 shall meet all requirements prescribed by the department under 365 paragraph (b), (c) or (d), and the cost of the assessment process

367 (8) **Reciprocity.** (a) The department shall grant a standard license to any individual who possesses a valid standard license from another state and has a minimum of two (2) years of full-time teaching or administrator experience.

required shall be paid by the applicant.

- 371 The department shall grant a nonrenewable special 372 license to any individual who possesses a credential which is less than a standard license or certification from another state, or 373 374 who possesses a standard license from another state but has less than two (2) years of full-time teaching or administration 375 376 experience. Such special license shall be valid for the current school year plus one (1) additional school year to expire on June 377 378 30 of the second year, not to exceed a total period of twenty-four 379 (24) months, during which time the applicant shall be required to 380 complete the requirements for a standard license in Mississippi.
- 381 (9) Renewal and Reinstatement of Licenses. The State Board
  382 of Education is authorized to establish rules and regulations for
  383 the renewal and reinstatement of educator and administrator
  384 licenses. Effective May 15, 1997, the valid standard license held
  385 by an educator shall be extended five (5) years beyond the
  386 expiration date of the license in order to afford the educator
  387 adequate time to fulfill new renewal requirements established

388 pursuant to this subsection. An educator completing a master of 389 education, educational specialist or doctor of education degree in 390 May 1997 for the purpose of upgrading the educator's license to a 391 higher class shall be given this extension of five (5) years plus 392 five (5) additional years for completion of a higher degree. 393 (10) All controversies involving the issuance, revocation, 394 suspension or any change whatsoever in the licensure of an 395 educator required to hold a license shall be initially heard in a 396 hearing de novo, by the commission or by a subcommittee 397 established by the commission and composed of commission members 398 for the purpose of holding hearings. Any complaint seeking the denial of issuance, revocation or suspension of a license shall be 399 400 by sworn affidavit filed with the Commission of Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and 401 402 Development. The decision thereon by the commission or its 403 subcommittee shall be final, unless the aggrieved party shall 404 appeal to the State Board of Education, within ten (10) days, of 405 the decision of the committee or its subcommittee. An appeal to 406 the State Board of Education shall be on the record previously 407 made before the commission or its subcommittee unless otherwise 408 provided by rules and regulations adopted by the board. The State Board of Education in its authority may reverse, or remand with 409 410 instructions, the decision of the committee or its subcommittee. The decision of the State Board of Education shall be final. 411 412 (11) The State Board of Education, acting through the 413 commission, may deny an application for any teacher or 414 administrator license for one or more of the following: Lack of qualifications which are prescribed by law 415 (a) or regulations adopted by the State Board of Education; 416 417 The applicant has a physical, emotional or mental (b)

disability that renders the applicant unfit to perform the duties

authorized by the license, as certified by a licensed psychologist

or psychiatrist;

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- 421 (c) The applicant is actively addicted to or actively
- 422 dependent on alcohol or other habit-forming drugs or is a habitual
- 423 user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens or
- 424 other drugs having similar effect, at the time of application for
- 425 a license;
- 426 (d) Revocation of an applicant's certificate or license
- 427 by another state;
- 428 (e) Fraud or deceit committed by the applicant in
- 429 securing or attempting to secure such certification and license;
- 430 (f) Failing or refusing to furnish reasonable evidence
- 431 of identification;
- 432 (g) The applicant has been convicted, has pled guilty
- 433 or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony, as defined by
- 434 federal or state law; or
- (h) The applicant has been convicted, has pled guilty
- 436 or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a sex offense as defined
- 437 by federal or state law.
- 438 (12) The State Board of Education, acting on the
- 439 recommendation of the commission, may revoke or suspend any
- 440 teacher or administrator license for specified periods of time for
- 441 one or more of the following:
- 442 (a) Breach of contract or abandonment of employment may
- 443 result in the suspension of the license for one (1) school year as
- 444 provided in Section 37-9-57;
- (b) Obtaining a license by fraudulent means shall
- 446 result in immediate suspension and continued suspension for one
- 447 (1) year after correction is made;
- 448 (c) Suspension or revocation of a certificate or
- 449 license by another state shall result in immediate suspension or
- 450 revocation and shall continue until records in the prior state
- 451 have been cleared;

- (d) The license holder has been convicted, has pled
- 453 guilty or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony, as
- 454 defined by federal or state law;
- (e) The license holder has been convicted, has pled
- 456 guilty or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a sex offense, as
- 457 defined by federal or state law; or
- 458 (f) The license holder knowingly and willfully
- 459 committing any of the acts affecting validity of mandatory uniform
- 460 test results as provided in Section 37-16-4(1).
- 461 (13) (a) Dismissal or suspension of a licensed employee by
- 462 a local school board pursuant to Section 37-9-59 may result in the
- 463 suspension or revocation of a license for a length of time which
- 464 shall be determined by the commission and based upon the severity
- 465 of the offense.
- 466 (b) Any offense committed or attempted in any other
- 467 state shall result in the same penalty as if committed or
- 468 attempted in this state.
- 469 (c) A person may voluntarily surrender a license. The
- 470 surrender of such license may result in the commission
- 471 recommending any of the above penalties without the necessity of a
- 472 hearing. However, any such license which has voluntarily been
- 473 surrendered by a licensed employee may only be reinstated by a
- 474 majority vote of all members of the commission present at the
- 475 meeting called for such purpose.
- 476 (14) A person whose license has been suspended on any
- 477 grounds except criminal grounds may petition for reinstatement of
- 478 the license after one (1) year from the date of suspension, or
- 479 after one-half (1/2) of the suspended time has lapsed, whichever
- 480 is greater. A license suspended or revoked on the criminal
- 481 grounds may be reinstated upon petition to the commission filed
- 482 after expiration of the sentence and parole or probationary period
- 483 imposed upon conviction. A revoked, suspended or surrendered
- 484 license may be reinstated upon satisfactory showing of evidence of

485 rehabilitation. The commission shall require all who petition for 486 reinstatement to furnish evidence satisfactory to the commission of good character, good mental, emotional and physical health and 487 488 such other evidence as the commission may deem necessary to 489 establish the petitioner's rehabilitation and fitness to perform 490 the duties authorized by the license.

- (15) Reporting procedures and hearing procedures for dealing with infractions under this section shall be promulgated by the commission, subject to the approval of the State Board of The revocation or suspension of a license shall be effected at the time indicated on the notice of suspension or revocation. The commission shall immediately notify the superintendent of the school district or school board where the teacher or administrator is employed of any disciplinary action and also notify the teacher or administrator of such revocation or suspension and shall maintain records of action taken. The State Board of Education may reverse or remand with instructions any decision of the commission regarding a petition for reinstatement of a license, and any such decision of the State Board of Education shall be final.
- (16) An appeal from the action of the State Board of 505 506 Education in denying an application, revoking or suspending a 507 license or otherwise disciplining any person under the provisions of this section shall be filed in the Chancery Court of the First 508 509 Judicial District of Hinds County on the record made, including a verbatim transcript of the testimony at the hearing. The appeal 510 511 shall be filed within thirty (30) days after notification of the action of the board is mailed or served and the proceedings in 512 chancery court shall be conducted as other matters coming before 513 the court. The appeal shall be perfected upon filing notice of 514 the appeal and by the prepayment of all costs, including the cost 515 516 of preparation of the record of the proceedings by the State Board 517 of Education, and the filing of a bond in the sum of Two Hundred H. B. No. 593

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- Dollars (\$200.00) conditioned that if the action of the board be 518 519 affirmed by the chancery court, the applicant or license holder 520 shall pay the costs of the appeal and the action of the chancery 521 court.
- 522 (17)All such programs, rules, regulations, standards and 523 criteria recommended or authorized by the commission shall become effective upon approval by the State Board of Education as 524 designated by appropriate orders entered upon the minutes thereof. 525
- 526 The granting of a license shall not be deemed a 527 property right nor a guarantee of employment in any public school 528 district. A license is a privilege indicating minimal eligibility for teaching in the public schools of Mississippi. This section 529 530 shall in no way alter or abridge the authority of local school districts to require greater qualifications or standards of 531 performance as a prerequisite of initial or continued employment 532
- 533 in such districts. 534 In addition to the reasons specified in subsections 535 (12) and (13) of this section, the board shall be authorized to suspend the license of any licensee for being out of compliance 536 537 with an order for support, as defined in Section 93-11-153. procedure for suspension of a license for being out of compliance 538 539 with an order for support, and the procedure for the reissuance or 540 reinstatement of a license suspended for that purpose, and the 541 payment of any fees for the reissuance or reinstatement of a 542 license suspended for that purpose, shall be governed by Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be. Actions taken by the 543 544 board in suspending a license when required by Section 93-11-157 545 or 93-11-163 are not actions from which an appeal may be taken under this section. Any appeal of a license suspension that is 546 547 required by Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163 shall be taken in 548 accordance with the appeal procedure specified in Section 549 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be, rather than the 550 procedure specified in this section. If there is any conflict

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H. B. No. 05/HR03/R225 PAGE 17 (CTE\LH)

- 551 between any provision of Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163 and any
- 552 provision of this chapter, the provisions of Section 93-11-157 or
- 93-11-163, as the case may be, shall control.
- 554 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 555 and after July 1, 2005.