

By: Representative Martinson

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 500

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-3-2, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REQUIRE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN THE STATE TO INCLUDE  
3 INSTRUCTION IN THE TEACHING OF PHONICS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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. The standards shall require all teacher  
54 education programs in the state to include instruction in the  
55 delivery of the following research-based reading instruction:

56 (i) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
57 phonemic awareness;

58 (ii) Explicit instruction in sound-symbol  
59 relationships (phonics);

60                    (iii) Ample practice in decodable texts to  
61 practice sound-spelling relationships;  
62                    (iv) Varied text to develop language comprehension  
63 and fluency;  
64                    (v) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
65 word attack skills;  
66                    (vi) Age-appropriate direct systematic intensive  
67 instruction in highly regular sound-spelling relationships;  
68                    (vii) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
69 vocabulary development and enhancement of background knowledge and  
70 motivation; and  
71                    (viii) Direct systematic intensive instruction in  
72 grammar, punctuation and capitalization;  
73                    (b) Recommend to the State Board of Education each year  
74 approval or disapproval of each educator preparation program in  
75 the state;  
76                    (c) Establish, subject to the approval of the State  
77 Board of Education, standards for initial teacher certification  
78 and licensure in all fields;  
79                    (d) Establish, subject to the approval of the State  
80 Board of Education, standards for the renewal of teacher licenses  
81 in all fields;  
82                    (e) Review and evaluate objective measures of teacher  
83 performance, such as test scores, which may form part of the  
84 licensure process, and to make recommendations for their use;  
85                    (f) Review all existing requirements for certification  
86 and licensure;  
87                    (g) Consult with groups whose work may be affected by  
88 the commission's decisions;  
89                    (h) Prepare reports from time to time on current  
90 practices and issues in the general area of teacher education and  
91 certification and licensure;

92 (i) Hold hearings concerning standards for teachers'  
93 and administrators' education and certification and licensure with  
94 approval of the State Board of Education;

95 (j) Hire expert consultants with approval of the State  
96 Board of Education;

97 (k) Set up ad hoc committees to advise on specific  
98 areas; and

99 (l) Perform such other functions as may fall within  
100 their general charge and which may be delegated to them by the  
101 State Board of Education.

102 (6) (a) **Standard License - Approved Program Route.** An  
103 educator entering the school system of Mississippi for the first  
104 time and meeting all requirements as established by the State  
105 Board of Education shall be granted a standard five-year license.  
106 Persons who possess two (2) years of classroom experience as an  
107 assistant teacher or who have taught for one (1) year in an  
108 accredited public or private school shall be allowed to fulfill  
109 student teaching requirements under the supervision of a qualified  
110 participating teacher approved by an accredited college of  
111 education. The local school district in which the assistant  
112 teacher is employed shall compensate such assistant teachers at  
113 the required salary level during the period of time such  
114 individual is completing student teaching requirements.

115 Applicants for a standard license shall submit to the department:

116 (i) An application on a department form;

117 (ii) An official transcript of completion of a  
118 teacher education program approved by the department or a  
119 nationally accredited program, subject to the following:

120 Licensure to teach in Mississippi prekindergarten through  
121 kindergarten classrooms shall require completion of a teacher  
122 education program or a bachelor of science degree with child  
123 development emphasis from a program accredited by the American  
124 Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) or by the

125 National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC) or by  
126 the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education  
127 (NCATE). Licensure to teach in Mississippi kindergarten, for  
128 those applicants who have completed a teacher education program,  
129 and in Grade 1 through Grade 4 shall require the completion of an  
130 interdisciplinary program of studies. Licenses for Grades 4  
131 through 8 shall require the completion of an interdisciplinary  
132 program of studies with two (2) or more areas of concentration.  
133 Licensure to teach in Mississippi Grades 7 through 12 shall  
134 require a major in an academic field other than education, or a  
135 combination of disciplines other than education. Students  
136 preparing to teach a subject shall complete a major in the  
137 respective subject discipline. All applicants for standard  
138 licensure shall demonstrate that such person's college preparation  
139 in those fields was in accordance with the standards set forth by  
140 the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education  
141 (NCATE) or the National Association of State Directors of Teacher  
142 Education and Certification (NASDTEC) or, for those applicants who  
143 have a bachelor of science degree with child development emphasis,  
144 the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS);

145 (iii) A copy of test scores evidencing  
146 satisfactory completion of nationally administered examinations of  
147 achievement, such as the Educational Testing Service's teacher  
148 testing examinations; and

149 (iv) Any other document required by the State  
150 Board of Education.

151 (b) **Standard License - Nontraditional Teaching Route.**  
152 Beginning January 1, 2004, an individual who has a passing score  
153 on the Praxis I Basic Skills and Praxis II Specialty Area Test in  
154 the requested area of endorsement may apply for the Teach  
155 Mississippi Institute (TMI) program to teach students in Grades 7  
156 through 12 if the individual meets the requirements of this  
157 paragraph (b). The State Board of Education shall adopt rules

158 requiring that teacher preparation institutions which provide the  
159 Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) program for the preparation of  
160 nontraditional teachers shall meet the standards and comply with  
161 the provisions of this paragraph.

162 (i) The Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) shall  
163 include an intensive eight-week, nine-semester-hour summer program  
164 or a curriculum of study in which the student matriculates in the  
165 fall or spring semester, which shall include, but not be limited  
166 to, instruction in education, effective teaching strategies,  
167 classroom management, state curriculum requirements, planning and  
168 instruction, instructional methods and pedagogy, using test  
169 results to improve instruction, and a one (1) semester three-hour  
170 supervised internship to be completed while the teacher is  
171 employed as a full-time teacher intern in a local school district.  
172 The TMI shall be implemented on a pilot program basis, with  
173 courses to be offered at up to four (4) locations in the state,  
174 with one (1) TMI site to be located in each of the three (3)  
175 Mississippi Supreme Court districts.

176 (ii) The school sponsoring the teacher intern  
177 shall enter into a written agreement with the institution  
178 providing the Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI) program, under  
179 terms and conditions as agreed upon by the contracting parties,  
180 providing that the school district shall provide teacher interns  
181 seeking a nontraditional provisional teaching license with a  
182 one-year classroom teaching experience. The teacher intern shall  
183 successfully complete the one (1) semester three-hour intensive  
184 internship in the school district during the semester immediately  
185 following successful completion of the TMI and prior to the end of  
186 the one-year classroom teaching experience.

187 (iii) Upon completion of the nine-semester-hour  
188 TMI or the fall or spring semester option, the individual shall  
189 submit his transcript to the commission for provisional licensure  
190 of the intern teacher, and the intern teacher shall be issued a

191 provisional teaching license by the commission, which will allow  
192 the individual to legally serve as a teacher while the person  
193 completes a nontraditional teacher preparation internship program.

194           (iv) During the semester of internship in the  
195 school district, the teacher preparation institution shall monitor  
196 the performance of the intern teacher. The school district that  
197 employs the provisional teacher shall supervise the provisional  
198 teacher during the teacher's intern year of employment under a  
199 nontraditional provisional license, and shall, in consultation  
200 with the teacher intern's mentor at the school district of  
201 employment, submit to the commission a comprehensive evaluation of  
202 the teacher's performance sixty (60) days prior to the expiration  
203 of the nontraditional provisional license. If the comprehensive  
204 evaluation establishes that the provisional teacher intern's  
205 performance fails to meet the standards of the approved  
206 nontraditional teacher preparation internship program, the  
207 individual shall not be approved for a standard license.

208           (v) An individual issued a provisional teaching  
209 license under this nontraditional route shall successfully  
210 complete, at a minimum, a one-year beginning teacher mentoring and  
211 induction program administered by the employing school district  
212 with the assistance of the State Department of Education.

213           (vi) Upon successful completion of the TMI and the  
214 internship provisional license period, applicants for a Standard  
215 License - Nontraditional Route shall submit to the commission a  
216 transcript of successful completion of the twelve (12) semester  
217 hours required in the internship program, and the employing school  
218 district shall submit to the commission a recommendation for  
219 standard licensure of the intern. If the school district  
220 recommends licensure, the applicant shall be issued a Standard  
221 License - Nontraditional Route which shall be valid for a  
222 five-year period and be renewable.

223 (vii) At the discretion of the teacher preparation  
224 institution, the individual shall be allowed to credit the twelve  
225 (12) semester hours earned in the nontraditional teacher  
226 internship program toward the graduate hours required for a Master  
227 of Arts in Teacher (MAT) Degree.

228 (viii) The local school district in which the  
229 nontraditional teacher intern or provisional licensee is employed  
230 shall compensate such teacher interns at Step 1 of the required  
231 salary level during the period of time such individual is  
232 completing teacher internship requirements and shall compensate  
233 such Standard License - Nontraditional Route teachers at Step 3 of  
234 the required salary level when they complete license requirements.

235 Implementation of the TMI program provided for under this  
236 paragraph (b) shall be contingent upon the availability of funds  
237 appropriated specifically for such purpose by the Legislature.  
238 Such implementation of the TMI program may not be deemed to  
239 prohibit the State Board of Education from developing and  
240 implementing additional alternative route teacher licensure  
241 programs, as deemed appropriate by the board. The emergency  
242 certification program in effect prior to July 1, 2002, shall  
243 remain in effect.

244 \* \* \*

245 A Standard License - Approved Program Route shall be issued  
246 for a five-year period, and may be renewed. Recognizing teaching  
247 as a profession, a hiring preference shall be granted to persons  
248 holding a Standard License - Approved Program Route or Standard  
249 License - Nontraditional Teaching Route over persons holding any  
250 other license.

251 (c) **Special License - Expert Citizen.** In order to  
252 allow a school district to offer specialized or technical courses,  
253 the State Department of Education, in accordance with rules and  
254 regulations established by the State Board of Education, may grant  
255 a one-year expert citizen-teacher license to local business or



256 other professional personnel to teach in a public school or  
257 nonpublic school accredited or approved by the state. Such person  
258 may begin teaching upon his employment by the local school board  
259 and licensure by the Mississippi Department of Education. The  
260 board shall adopt rules and regulations to administer the expert  
261 citizen-teacher license. A Special License - Expert Citizen may  
262 be renewed in accordance with the established rules and  
263 regulations of the State Department of Education.

264 (d) **Special License - Nonrenewable.** The State Board of  
265 Education is authorized to establish rules and regulations to  
266 allow those educators not meeting requirements in subsection  
267 (6)(a), (b) or (c) to be licensed for a period of not more than  
268 three (3) years, except by special approval of the State Board of  
269 Education.

270 (e) **Nonlicensed Teaching Personnel.** A nonlicensed  
271 person may teach for a maximum of three (3) periods per teaching  
272 day in a public school or a nonpublic school accredited/approved  
273 by the state. Such person shall submit to the department a  
274 transcript or record of his education and experience which  
275 substantiates his preparation for the subject to be taught and  
276 shall meet other qualifications specified by the commission and  
277 approved by the State Board of Education. In no case shall any  
278 local school board hire nonlicensed personnel as authorized under  
279 this paragraph in excess of five percent (5%) of the total number  
280 of licensed personnel in any single school.

281 (f) **Special License - Transitional Bilingual**  
282 **Education. \* \* \*** The commission shall grant special licenses to  
283 teachers of transitional bilingual education who possess such  
284 qualifications as are prescribed in this section. Teachers of  
285 transitional bilingual education shall be compensated by local  
286 school boards at not less than one (1) step on the regular salary  
287 schedule applicable to permanent teachers licensed under this  
288 section. The commission shall grant special licenses to teachers

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

310 (g) In the event any school district meets Level 4 or 5  
311 accreditation standards, the State Board of Education, in its  
312 discretion, may exempt such school district from any restrictions  
313 in paragraph (e) relating to the employment of nonlicensed  
314 teaching personnel.

315 (h) **Highly Qualified Teachers.** Beginning July 1, 2006,  
316 any teacher from any state meeting the federal definition of  
317 highly qualified, as described in the No Child Left Behind Act,  
318 must be granted a standard five-year license by the State  
319 Department of Education.

320 (7) **Administrator License.** The State Board of Education is  
321 authorized to establish rules and regulations and to administer

322 the licensure process of the school administrators in the State of  
323 Mississippi. There will be four (4) categories of administrator  
324 licensure with exceptions only through special approval of the  
325 State Board of Education.

326 (a) **Administrator License - Nonpracticing.** Those  
327 educators holding administrative endorsement but having no  
328 administrative experience or not serving in an administrative  
329 position on January 15, 1997.

330 (b) **Administrator License - Entry Level.** Those  
331 educators holding administrative endorsement and having met the  
332 department's qualifications to be eligible for employment in a  
333 Mississippi school district. Administrator License - Entry Level  
334 shall be issued for a five-year period and shall be nonrenewable.

335 (c) **Standard Administrator License - Career Level.** An  
336 administrator who has met all the requirements of the department  
337 for standard administrator licensure.

338 (d) **Administrator License - Nontraditional Route.** The  
339 board may establish a nontraditional route for licensing  
340 administrative personnel. Such nontraditional route for  
341 administrative licensure shall be available for persons holding,  
342 but not limited to, a master of business administration degree, a  
343 master of public administration degree, a master of public  
344 planning and policy degree or a doctor of jurisprudence degree  
345 from an accredited college or university, with five (5) years of  
346 administrative or supervisory experience. Successful completion  
347 of the requirements of alternate route licensure for  
348 administrators shall qualify the person for a standard  
349 administrator license.

350 \* \* \*

351 \* \* \* Individuals seeking school administrator licensure  
352 under paragraph (b), (c) or (d) shall successfully complete a  
353 training program and an assessment process prescribed by the State  
354 Board of Education. \* \* \* All applicants for school administrator

355 licensure shall meet all requirements prescribed by the department  
356 under paragraph (b), (c) or (d), and the cost of the assessment  
357 process required shall be paid by the applicant.

358       (8) **Reciprocity.** (a) The department shall grant a standard  
359 license to any individual who possesses a valid standard license  
360 from another state.

361       (b) The department shall grant a nonrenewable special  
362 license to any individual who possesses a credential which is less  
363 than a standard license or certification from another state. Such  
364 special license shall be valid for the current school year plus  
365 one (1) additional school year to expire on June 30 of the second  
366 year, not to exceed a total period of twenty-four (24) months,  
367 during which time the applicant shall be required to complete the  
368 requirements for a standard license in Mississippi.

369       (9) **Renewal and Reinstatement of Licenses.** The State Board  
370 of Education is authorized to establish rules and regulations for  
371 the renewal and reinstatement of educator and administrator  
372 licenses. Effective May 15, 1997, the valid standard license held  
373 by an educator shall be extended five (5) years beyond the  
374 expiration date of the license in order to afford the educator  
375 adequate time to fulfill new renewal requirements established  
376 pursuant to this subsection. An educator completing a master of  
377 education, educational specialist or doctor of education degree in  
378 May 1997 for the purpose of upgrading the educator's license to a  
379 higher class shall be given this extension of five (5) years plus  
380 five (5) additional years for completion of a higher degree.

381       (10) All controversies involving the issuance, revocation,  
382 suspension or any change whatsoever in the licensure of an  
383 educator required to hold a license shall be initially heard in a  
384 hearing de novo, by the commission or by a subcommittee  
385 established by the commission and composed of commission members  
386 for the purpose of holding hearings. Any complaint seeking the  
387 denial of issuance, revocation or suspension of a license shall be

388 by sworn affidavit filed with the Commission of Teacher and  
389 Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and  
390 Development. The decision thereon by the commission or its  
391 subcommittee shall be final, unless the aggrieved party shall  
392 appeal to the State Board of Education, within ten (10) days, of  
393 the decision of the committee or its subcommittee. An appeal to  
394 the State Board of Education shall be on the record previously  
395 made before the commission or its subcommittee unless otherwise  
396 provided by rules and regulations adopted by the board. The State  
397 Board of Education in its authority may reverse, or remand with  
398 instructions, the decision of the committee or its subcommittee.  
399 The decision of the State Board of Education shall be final.

400 (11) The State Board of Education, acting through the  
401 commission, may deny an application for any teacher or  
402 administrator license for one or more of the following:

403 (a) Lack of qualifications which are prescribed by law  
404 or regulations adopted by the State Board of Education;

405 (b) The applicant has a physical, emotional or mental  
406 disability that renders the applicant unfit to perform the duties  
407 authorized by the license, as certified by a licensed psychologist  
408 or psychiatrist;

409 (c) The applicant is actively addicted to or actively  
410 dependent on alcohol or other habit-forming drugs or is a habitual  
411 user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens or  
412 other drugs having similar effect, at the time of application for  
413 a license;

414 (d) Revocation of an applicant's certificate or license  
415 by another state;

416 (e) Fraud or deceit committed by the applicant in  
417 securing or attempting to secure such certification and license;

418 (f) Failing or refusing to furnish reasonable evidence  
419 of identification;

420           (g) The applicant has been convicted, has pled guilty  
421 or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony, as defined by  
422 federal or state law; or

423           (h) The applicant has been convicted, has pled guilty  
424 or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a sex offense as defined  
425 by federal or state law.

426           (12) The State Board of Education, acting on the  
427 recommendation of the commission, may revoke or suspend any  
428 teacher or administrator license for specified periods of time for  
429 one or more of the following:

430           (a) Breach of contract or abandonment of employment may  
431 result in the suspension of the license for one (1) school year as  
432 provided in Section 37-9-57;

433           (b) Obtaining a license by fraudulent means shall  
434 result in immediate suspension and continued suspension for one  
435 (1) year after correction is made;

436           (c) Suspension or revocation of a certificate or  
437 license by another state shall result in immediate suspension or  
438 revocation and shall continue until records in the prior state  
439 have been cleared;

440           (d) The license holder has been convicted, has pled  
441 guilty or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony, as  
442 defined by federal or state law;

443           (e) The license holder has been convicted, has pled  
444 guilty or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a sex offense, as  
445 defined by federal or state law; or

446           (f) The license holder knowingly and willfully  
447 committing any of the acts affecting validity of mandatory uniform  
448 test results as provided in Section 37-16-4(1).

449           (13) (a) Dismissal or suspension of a licensed employee by  
450 a local school board pursuant to Section 37-9-59 may result in the  
451 suspension or revocation of a license for a length of time which

452 shall be determined by the commission and based upon the severity  
453 of the offense.

454 (b) Any offense committed or attempted in any other  
455 state shall result in the same penalty as if committed or  
456 attempted in this state.

457 (c) A person may voluntarily surrender a license. The  
458 surrender of such license may result in the commission  
459 recommending any of the above penalties without the necessity of a  
460 hearing. However, any such license which has voluntarily been  
461 surrendered by a licensed employee may only be reinstated by a  
462 majority vote of all members of the commission present at the  
463 meeting called for such purpose.

464 (14) A person whose license has been suspended on any  
465 grounds except criminal grounds may petition for reinstatement of  
466 the license after one (1) year from the date of suspension, or  
467 after one-half (1/2) of the suspended time has lapsed, whichever  
468 is greater. A license suspended or revoked on the criminal  
469 grounds may be reinstated upon petition to the commission filed  
470 after expiration of the sentence and parole or probationary period  
471 imposed upon conviction. A revoked, suspended or surrendered  
472 license may be reinstated upon satisfactory showing of evidence of  
473 rehabilitation. The commission shall require all who petition for  
474 reinstatement to furnish evidence satisfactory to the commission  
475 of good character, good mental, emotional and physical health and  
476 such other evidence as the commission may deem necessary to  
477 establish the petitioner's rehabilitation and fitness to perform  
478 the duties authorized by the license.

479 (15) Reporting procedures and hearing procedures for dealing  
480 with infractions under this section shall be promulgated by the  
481 commission, subject to the approval of the State Board of  
482 Education. The revocation or suspension of a license shall be  
483 effected at the time indicated on the notice of suspension or  
484 revocation. The commission shall immediately notify the

485 superintendent of the school district or school board where the  
486 teacher or administrator is employed of any disciplinary action  
487 and also notify the teacher or administrator of such revocation or  
488 suspension and shall maintain records of action taken. The State  
489 Board of Education may reverse or remand with instructions any  
490 decision of the commission regarding a petition for reinstatement  
491 of a license, and any such decision of the State Board of  
492 Education shall be final.

493 (16) An appeal from the action of the State Board of  
494 Education in denying an application, revoking or suspending a  
495 license or otherwise disciplining any person under the provisions  
496 of this section shall be filed in the Chancery Court of the First  
497 Judicial District of Hinds County on the record made, including a  
498 verbatim transcript of the testimony at the hearing. The appeal  
499 shall be filed within thirty (30) days after notification of the  
500 action of the board is mailed or served and the proceedings in  
501 chancery court shall be conducted as other matters coming before  
502 the court. The appeal shall be perfected upon filing notice of  
503 the appeal and by the prepayment of all costs, including the cost  
504 of preparation of the record of the proceedings by the State Board  
505 of Education, and the filing of a bond in the sum of Two Hundred  
506 Dollars (\$200.00) conditioned that if the action of the board be  
507 affirmed by the chancery court, the applicant or license holder  
508 shall pay the costs of the appeal and the action of the chancery  
509 court.

510 (17) All such programs, rules, regulations, standards and  
511 criteria recommended or authorized by the commission shall become  
512 effective upon approval by the State Board of Education as  
513 designated by appropriate orders entered upon the minutes thereof.

514 (18) The granting of a license shall not be deemed a  
515 property right nor a guarantee of employment in any public school  
516 district. A license is a privilege indicating minimal eligibility  
517 for teaching in the public schools of Mississippi. This section



518 shall in no way alter or abridge the authority of local school  
519 districts to require greater qualifications or standards of  
520 performance as a prerequisite of initial or continued employment  
521 in such districts.

522 (19) In addition to the reasons specified in subsections  
523 (12) and (13) of this section, the board shall be authorized to  
524 suspend the license of any licensee for being out of compliance  
525 with an order for support, as defined in Section 93-11-153. The  
526 procedure for suspension of a license for being out of compliance  
527 with an order for support, and the procedure for the reissuance or  
528 reinstatement of a license suspended for that purpose, and the  
529 payment of any fees for the reissuance or reinstatement of a  
530 license suspended for that purpose, shall be governed by Section  
531 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be. Actions taken by the  
532 board in suspending a license when required by Section 93-11-157  
533 or 93-11-163 are not actions from which an appeal may be taken  
534 under this section. Any appeal of a license suspension that is  
535 required by Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163 shall be taken in  
536 accordance with the appeal procedure specified in Section  
537 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be, rather than the  
538 procedure specified in this section. If there is any conflict  
539 between any provision of Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163 and any  
540 provision of this chapter, the provisions of Section 93-11-157 or  
541 93-11-163, as the case may be, shall control.

542 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
543 and after July 1, 2007.