

By: Representative McBride

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1035

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-19-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE TEACHER SALARY SCALE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS BY THREE
3 PERCENT PER YEAR; TO AMEND SECTION 37-21-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
4 1972, TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF ASSISTANT TEACHERS DURING THE
5 NEXT FIVE YEARS BY THREE PERCENT PER YEAR; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 37-19-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 37-19-7. (1) This subsection shall be known and may be
11 cited as the Mississippi "Teacher Opportunity Program (TOP)." The
12 allowance in the \* \* \* Mississippi Adequate Education Program for
13 teachers' salaries in each county and separate school district
14 shall be determined and paid in accordance with the scale for
15 teachers' salaries as provided in this subsection. For teachers
16 holding the following types of licenses or the equivalent as
17 determined by the State Board of Education, and the following
18 number of years of teaching experience, the scale shall be as
19 follows:

20 2007-2008 School Year \* \* \* Less Than 25 Years

21 of Teaching Experience

Table with 2 columns: License Type and Salary. Rows include AAAA (\$35,020.00), AAA (33,990.00), AA (32,960.00), and A (30,900.00).

26 25 or More Years of Teaching Experience

Table with 2 columns: License Type and Salary. Rows include AAAA (\$37,080.00), AAA (36,050.00), and AA (33,020.00).

30	A.....	32,960.00
31	<u>2008-2009 School Year</u>	
32	<u>Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
33	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 36,070.00
34	<u>AAA</u> .....	35,010.00
35	<u>AA</u> .....	33,949.00
36	<u>A</u> .....	31,827.00
37	<u>25 or More Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
38	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 38,193.00
39	<u>AAA</u> .....	37,132.00
40	<u>AA</u> .....	36,070.00
41	<u>A</u> .....	33,949.00
42	<u>2009-2010 School Year</u>	
43	<u>Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
44	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 37,153.00
45	<u>AAA</u> .....	36,060.00
46	<u>AA</u> .....	34,968.00
47	<u>A</u> .....	32,782.00
48	<u>25 or More Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
49	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 39,339.00
50	<u>AAA</u> .....	38,246.00
51	<u>AA</u> .....	37,153.00
52	<u>A</u> .....	34,968.00
53	<u>2010-2011 School Year</u>	
54	<u>Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
55	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 38,268.00
56	<u>AAA</u> .....	37,142.00
57	<u>AA</u> .....	36,017.00
58	<u>A</u> .....	33,766.00
59	<u>25 or More Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
60	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ 40,519.00
61	<u>AAA</u> .....	39,393.00
62	<u>AA</u> .....	38,268.00

63	<u>A</u> .....	<u>36,017.00</u>
64	<u>2011-2012 School Year</u>	
65	<u>Less Than 25 Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
66	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ <u>39,416.00</u>
67	<u>AAA</u> .....	<u>38,256.00</u>
68	<u>AA</u> .....	<u>37,097.00</u>
69	<u>A</u> .....	<u>34,779.00</u>
70	<u>25 or More Years of Teaching Experience</u>	
71	<u>AAAA</u> .....	\$ <u>41,734.00</u>
72	<u>AAA</u> .....	<u>40,575.00</u>
73	<u>AA</u> .....	<u>39,416.00</u>
74	<u>A</u> .....	<u>37,097.00</u>

75 2012-2013 School Year and School Years Thereafter

76 The State Board of Education shall revise the salary scale  
77 prescribed above for the applicable school year to conform to any  
78 adjustments made to the salary scale in prior fiscal years due to  
79 revenue growth over and above five percent (5%). In any school  
80 year, for each one percent (1%) that the Sine Die General Fund  
81 Revenue Estimate Growth exceeds five percent (5%) for the  
82 corresponding fiscal year \* \* \*, as certified by the Legislative  
83 Budget Office to the State Board of Education and subject to  
84 specific appropriation therefor by the Legislature, the State  
85 Board of Education shall revise the salary scale to provide an  
86 additional one percent (1%) across the board increase in the base  
87 salaries for each type of license.

88 It is the intent of the Legislature that any state funds made  
89 available for salaries of licensed personnel in excess of the  
90 funds paid for such salaries for the 1986-1987 school year shall  
91 be paid to licensed personnel pursuant to a personnel appraisal  
92 and compensation system implemented by the State Board of  
93 Education. The State Board of Education shall have the authority  
94 to adopt and amend rules and regulations as are necessary to  
95 establish, administer and maintain the system.

96 All teachers employed on a full-time basis shall be paid a  
97 minimum salary in accordance with the above scale. However, no  
98 school district shall receive any funds under this section for any  
99 school year during which the local supplement paid to any  
100 individual teacher shall have been reduced to a sum less than that  
101 paid to that individual teacher for performing the same duties  
102 from local supplement during the immediately preceding school  
103 year. The amount actually spent for the purposes of group health  
104 and/or life insurance shall be considered as a part of the  
105 aggregate amount of local supplement but shall not be considered a  
106 part of the amount of individual local supplement.

107 **2007-2008 School Year**

108 **and School Years Thereafter Annual Increments**

109 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
110 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
111 Seven Hundred Ninety-three Dollars (\$793.00) for each year of  
112 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
113 until such person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching  
114 experience.

115 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
116 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
117 Seven Hundred Twenty-six Dollars (\$726.00) for each year of  
118 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
119 until such person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching  
120 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 Fifty-nine Dollars (\$659.00) for each year of teaching  
124 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
125 person shall have twenty-six (26) 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 Ninety-four Dollars (\$494.00) for each year of teaching

129 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
130 person shall have twenty-five (25) years of teaching experience.

131 **2008-2009 School Year**

132 **Annual Increments**

133 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
134 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
135 Eight Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$817.00) for each year of  
136 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
137 until such person shall have twenty-seven (27) years of teaching  
138 experience.

139 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
140 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
141 Seven Hundred Forty-eight Dollars (\$748.00) for each year of  
142 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
143 until such person shall have twenty-seven (27) years of teaching  
144 experience.

145 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
146 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Six  
147 Hundred Seventy-nine Dollars (\$679.00) for each year of teaching  
148 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
149 person shall have twenty-seven (27) years of teaching experience.

150 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
151 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
152 Hundred Nine Dollars (\$509.00) for each year of teaching  
153 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
154 person shall have twenty-six (26) years of teaching experience.

155 **2009-2010 School Year**

156 **Annual Increments**

157 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
158 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
159 Eight Hundred Forty-two Dollars (\$842.00) for each year of  
160 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license

161 until such person shall have twenty-eight (28) years of teaching  
162 experience.

163 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
164 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
165 Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$770.00) for each year of teaching  
166 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
167 person shall have twenty-eight (28) years of teaching experience.

168 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
169 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
170 Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700.00) for each year of teaching  
171 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
172 person shall have twenty-eight (28) years of teaching experience.

173 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
174 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
175 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$525.00) for each year of teaching  
176 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
177 person shall have twenty-seven (27) years of teaching experience.

178 **2010-2011 School Year**

179 **Annual Increments**

180 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
181 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
182 Eight Hundred Sixty-seven Dollars (\$867.00) for each year of  
183 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
184 until such person shall have twenty-nine (29) years of teaching  
185 experience.

186 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
187 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
188 Seven Hundred Ninety-four Dollars (\$794.00) for each year of  
189 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
190 until such person shall have twenty-nine (29) years of teaching  
191 experience.

192 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
193 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of

194 Seven Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$720.00) for each year of teaching  
195 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
196 person shall have twenty-nine (29) years of teaching experience.

197 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
198 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
199 Hundred Forty Dollars (\$540.00) for each year of teaching  
200 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
201 person shall have twenty-eight (28) years of teaching experience.

202 **2011-2012 School Year and School Years Thereafter**

203 **Annual Increments**

204 For teachers holding a Class AAAA license, the minimum base  
205 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
206 Eight Hundred Ninety-three Dollars (\$893.00) for each year of  
207 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
208 until such person shall have thirty (30) years of teaching  
209 experience.

210 For teachers holding a Class AAA license, the minimum base  
211 pay specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
212 Eight Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$818.00) for each year of teaching  
213 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
214 person shall have thirty (30) years of teaching experience.

215 For teachers holding a Class AA license, the minimum base pay  
216 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of  
217 Seven Hundred Forty-two Dollars (\$742.00) for each year of  
218 teaching experience possessed by the person holding such license  
219 until such person shall have thirty (30) years of teaching  
220 experience.

221 For teachers holding a Class A license, the minimum base pay  
222 specified in this subsection shall be increased by the sum of Five  
223 Hundred Fifty-seven Dollars (\$557.00) for each year of teaching  
224 experience possessed by the person holding such license until such  
225 person shall have twenty-nine (29) years of teaching experience.

226           The level of professional training of each teacher to be used  
227 in establishing the salary allotment for the teachers for each  
228 year shall be determined by the type of valid teacher's license  
229 issued to those teachers on or before October 1 of the current  
230 school year.

231           (2) (a) The following employees shall receive an annual  
232 salary supplement in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars  
233 (\$6,000.00), plus fringe benefits, in addition to any other  
234 compensation to which the employee may be entitled:

235                   (i) Any licensed teacher who has met the  
236 requirements and acquired a Master Teacher certificate from the  
237 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and who is  
238 employed by a local school board or the State Board of Education  
239 as a teacher and not as an administrator. Such teacher shall  
240 submit documentation to the State Department of Education that the  
241 certificate was received prior to October 15 in order to be  
242 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
243 year, or the teacher shall submit such documentation to the State  
244 Department of Education prior to February 15 in order to be  
245 eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the  
246 second term of the school year.

247                   (ii) A licensed nurse who has met the requirements  
248 and acquired a certificate from the National Board for  
249 Certification of School Nurses, Inc., and who is employed by a  
250 local school board or the State Board of Education as a school  
251 nurse and not as an administrator. The licensed school nurse  
252 shall submit documentation to the State Department of Education  
253 that the certificate was received before October 15 in order to be  
254 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
255 year, or the licensed school nurse shall submit the documentation  
256 to the State Department of Education before February 15 in order  
257 to be eligible for a prorated salary supplement beginning with the  
258 second term of the school year. Provided, however, that the total

259 number of licensed school nurses eligible for a salary supplement  
260 under this paragraph (ii) shall not exceed twenty (20).

261 (iii) Any licensed school counselor who has met  
262 the requirements and acquired a National Certified School  
263 Counselor (NCSC) endorsement from the National Board of Certified  
264 Counselors and who is employed by a local school board or the  
265 State Board of Education as a counselor and not as an  
266 administrator. Such licensed school counselor shall submit  
267 documentation to the State Department of Education that the  
268 endorsement was received prior to October 15 in order to be  
269 eligible for the full salary supplement in the current school  
270 year, or the licensed school counselor shall submit such  
271 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
272 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
273 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.  
274 However, any school counselor who started the National Board for  
275 Professional Teaching Standards process for school counselors  
276 between June 1, 2003, and June 30, 2004, and completes the  
277 requirements and acquires the master teacher certificate shall be  
278 entitled to the master teacher supplement, and those counselors  
279 who complete the process shall be entitled to a one-time  
280 reimbursement for the actual cost of the process as outlined in  
281 paragraph (b) of this subsection.

282 (iv) Any licensed speech-language pathologist and  
283 audiologist who has met the requirements and acquired a  
284 Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American  
285 Speech-Language-Hearing Association and who is employed by a local  
286 school board. Such licensed speech-language pathologist and  
287 audiologist shall submit documentation to the State Department of  
288 Education that the certificate or endorsement was received prior  
289 to October 15 in order to be eligible for the full salary  
290 supplement in the current school year, or the licensed  
291 speech-language pathologist and audiologist shall submit such

292 documentation to the State Department of Education prior to  
293 February 15 in order to be eligible for a prorated salary  
294 supplement beginning with the second term of the school year.

295           (b) An employee shall be reimbursed one (1) time for  
296 the actual cost of completing the process of acquiring the  
297 certificate or endorsement, excluding any costs incurred for  
298 postgraduate courses, not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)  
299 for a school counselor or speech-language pathologist and  
300 audiologist, regardless of whether or not the process resulted in  
301 the award of the certificate or endorsement. A local school  
302 district or any private individual or entity may pay the cost of  
303 completing the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement  
304 for any employee of the school district described under paragraph  
305 (a), and the State Department of Education shall reimburse the  
306 school district for such cost, regardless of whether or not the  
307 process resulted in the award of the certificate or endorsement.  
308 If a private individual or entity has paid the cost of completing  
309 the process of acquiring the certificate or endorsement for an  
310 employee, the local school district may agree to directly  
311 reimburse the individual or entity for such cost on behalf of the  
312 employee.

313           (c) All salary supplements, fringe benefits and process  
314 reimbursement authorized under this subsection shall be paid  
315 directly by the State Department of Education to the local school  
316 district and shall be in addition to its minimum education program  
317 allotments and not a part thereof in accordance with regulations  
318 promulgated by the State Board of Education, and subject to  
319 appropriation by the Legislature. Local school districts shall  
320 not reduce the local supplement paid to any employee receiving  
321 such salary supplement, and the employee shall receive any local  
322 supplement to which employees with similar training and experience  
323 otherwise are entitled.

324           (d) The State Department of Education may not pay any  
325 process reimbursement to a school district for an employee who  
326 does not complete the certification or endorsement process  
327 required to be eligible for the certificate or endorsement. If an  
328 employee for whom such cost has been paid in full or in part by a  
329 local school district or private individual or entity fails to  
330 complete the certification or endorsement process, the employee  
331 shall be liable to the school district or individual or entity for  
332 all amounts paid by the school district or individual or entity on  
333 behalf of that employee toward his or her certificate or  
334 endorsement.

335           (3) (a) Effective July 1, 2007, if funds are available for  
336 that purpose, the Legislature may authorize state funds for  
337 additional base compensation for teachers holding licenses in  
338 critical subject areas or the equivalent and who teach at least a  
339 majority of their courses in a critical subject area, as  
340 determined by the State Board of Education.

341           (b) Effective July 1, 2007, if funds are available for  
342 that purpose, the Legislature may authorize state funds for  
343 additional base compensation for teachers employed in a public  
344 school district located in a geographic area of the state  
345 designated as a critical teacher shortage area by the State Board  
346 of Education.

347           (4) (a) This subsection shall be known and may be cited as  
348 the "Mississippi Performance Based Pay (MPBP)" plan. In addition  
349 to the minimum base pay described in this subsection (1) of this  
350 section, only after full funding of MAEP and if funds are  
351 available for that purpose, the State of Mississippi may provide  
352 monies from state funds to school districts for the purposes of  
353 rewarding certified teachers, administrators and nonlicensed  
354 personnel at individual schools showing improvement in student  
355 test scores. The MPBP plan shall be developed by the State  
356 Department of Education based on the following criteria:

357                   (i) It is the express intent of this legislation  
358 that the MPBP plan shall utilize only existing standards of  
359 accreditation and assessment as established by the State Board of  
360 Education.

361                   (ii) To ensure that all of Mississippi's teachers,  
362 administrators and nonlicensed personnel at all schools have equal  
363 access to the monies set aside in this subsection, the MPBP  
364 program shall be designed to calculate each school's performance  
365 as determined by the school's increase in scores from the prior  
366 school year. The MPBP program shall be based on a standardized  
367 scores rating where all levels of schools can be judged in a  
368 statistically fair and reasonable way upon implementation. At the  
369 end of each year, after all student achievement scores have been  
370 standardized, the State Department of Education shall implement  
371 the MPBP plan.

372                   (iii) To ensure all teachers cooperate in the  
373 spirit of teamwork, individual schools shall submit a plan to the  
374 local school educational authority to be approved before the  
375 beginning of each school year beginning July 1, 2008. The plan  
376 shall include, but not be limited to, how all teachers, regardless  
377 of subject area, and administrators will be responsible for  
378 improving student achievement for their individual school.

379                   (b) The State Board of Education shall develop the  
380 processes and procedures for designating schools eligible to  
381 participate in the MPBP. State assessment results, growth in  
382 student achievement at individual schools and other measures  
383 deemed appropriate in designating successful student achievement  
384 shall be used in establishing MPBP criteria. The State Board of  
385 Education shall develop the MPBP policies and procedures and  
386 report to the Legislature and Governor by December 1, 2006.

387                   (5) (a) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, if funds  
388 are available for that purpose, each middle school in Mississippi  
389 shall have at least two (2) mentor teachers, as defined by

390 Sections 37-9-201 through 37-9-213, who shall receive additional  
391 base compensation provided for by the State Legislature in the  
392 amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). For the purposes of  
393 this subsection (5), "middle school" means any school composed  
394 individually or of some composite of Grades 6 through 8.

395 (b) To be eligible for this state funding, the  
396 individual school must have a classroom management program  
397 approved by the local school board.

398 (c) If funds are available for that purpose, the state  
399 shall provide additional funding under this subsection for two (2)  
400 mentor teachers per middle school; however, local school districts  
401 may provide additional salary supplements for more than two (2)  
402 teacher mentors from nonadequate education program funds. The  
403 state department may develop an implementation process that fairly  
404 distributes these funds for the consideration of the Legislature.

405 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-21-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
406 amended as follows:

407 37-21-7. (1) This section shall be referred to as the  
408 "Mississippi Elementary Schools Assistant Teacher Program," the  
409 purpose of which shall be to provide an early childhood education  
410 program that assists in the instruction of basic skills. The  
411 State Board of Education is authorized, empowered and directed to  
412 implement a statewide system of assistant teachers in kindergarten  
413 classes and in the first, second and third grades. The assistant  
414 teacher shall assist pupils in actual instruction under the strict  
415 supervision of a licensed teacher.

416 (2) (a) Except as otherwise authorized under subsection  
417 (7), each school district shall employ the total number of  
418 assistant teachers funded under subsection (6) of this section.  
419 The superintendent of each district shall assign the assistant  
420 teachers to the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade  
421 classes in the district in a manner that will promote the maximum  
422 efficiency, as determined by the superintendent, in the

423 instruction of skills such as verbal and linguistic skills,  
424 logical and mathematical skills, and social skills.

425 (b) If a licensed teacher to whom an assistant teacher  
426 has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the  
427 assistant teacher may assume responsibility for the classroom in  
428 lieu of a substitute teacher. However, no assistant teacher shall  
429 assume sole responsibility of the classroom for more than three  
430 (3) consecutive school days. Further, in no event shall any  
431 assistant teacher be assigned to serve as a substitute teacher for  
432 any teacher other than the licensed teacher to whom that assistant  
433 teacher has been assigned.

434 (3) Assistant teachers shall have, at a minimum, a high  
435 school diploma or a GED equivalent, and shall show demonstratable  
436 proficiency in reading and writing skills. The State Department  
437 of Education shall develop a testing procedure for assistant  
438 teacher applicants to be used in all school districts in the  
439 state.

440 (4) (a) In order to receive funding, each school district  
441 shall:

442 (i) Submit a plan on the implementation of a  
443 reading improvement program to the State Department of Education;  
444 and

445 (ii) Develop a plan of educational accountability  
446 and assessment of performance, including pretests and posttests,  
447 for reading in Grades 1 through 6.

448 (b) Additionally, each school district shall:

449 (i) Provide annually a mandatory preservice  
450 orientation session, using an existing in-school service day, for  
451 administrators and teachers on the effective use of assistant  
452 teachers as part of a team in the classroom setting and on the  
453 role of assistant teachers, with emphasis on program goals;

454                   (ii) Hold periodic workshops for administrators  
455 and teachers on the effective use and supervision of assistant  
456 teachers;

457                   (iii) Provide training annually on specific  
458 instructional skills for assistant teachers;

459                   (iv) Annually evaluate their program in accordance  
460 with their educational accountability and assessment of  
461 performance plan; and

462                   (v) Designate the necessary personnel to supervise  
463 and report on their program.

464           (5) The State Department of Education shall:

465                   (a) Develop and assist in the implementation of a  
466 statewide uniform training module, subject to the availability of  
467 funds specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature, which  
468 shall be used in all school districts for training administrators,  
469 teachers and assistant teachers. The module shall provide for the  
470 consolidated training of each assistant teacher and teacher to  
471 whom the assistant teacher is assigned, working together as a  
472 team, and shall require further periodic training for  
473 administrators, teachers and assistant teachers regarding the role  
474 of assistant teachers;

475                   (b) Annually evaluate the program on the district and  
476 state level. Subject to the availability of funds specifically  
477 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the department shall  
478 develop: (i) uniform evaluation reports, to be performed by the  
479 principal or assistant principal, to collect data for the annual  
480 overall program evaluation conducted by the department; or (ii) a  
481 program evaluation model that, at a minimum, addresses process  
482 evaluation; and

483                   (c) Promulgate rules, regulations and such other  
484 standards deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this  
485 section. Noncompliance with the provisions of this section and  
486 any rules, regulations or standards adopted by the department may

487 result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards as  
488 established by the State Board of Education and the Commission on  
489 School Accreditation.

490 (6) In addition to other funds allotted under the Minimum  
491 Education or Adequate Education Program, each school district  
492 shall be allotted sufficient funding for the purpose of employing  
493 assistant teachers. No assistant teacher shall be paid less than  
494 the amount he or she received in the prior school year. No school  
495 district shall receive any funds under this section for any school  
496 year during which the aggregate amount of the local contribution  
497 to the salaries of assistant teachers by the district shall have  
498 been reduced below such amount for the previous year.

499 For the 2007-2008 school year \* \* \*, the minimum salary for  
500 assistant teachers shall be Twelve Thousand Three Hundred Sixty  
501 Dollars (\$12,360.00).

502 For the 2008-2009 school year, the minimum salary for  
503 assistant teachers shall be Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred  
504 Thirty-one Dollars (\$12,731.00).

505 For the 2009-2010 school year, the minimum salary for  
506 assistant teachers shall be Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Thirteen  
507 (\$13,113.00).

508 For the 2010-2011 school year, the minimum salary for  
509 assistant teachers shall be Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred Six  
510 Dollars (\$13,506.00).

511 For the 2011-2012 school year and school years thereafter,  
512 the minimum salary for assistant teachers shall be Thirteen  
513 Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$13,912.00).

514 In addition, in any school year, for each one percent (1%)  
515 that the Sine Die General Fund Revenue Estimate Growth exceeds  
516 five percent (5%) for the corresponding fiscal year \* \* \*, as  
517 certified by the Legislative Budget Office to the State Board of  
518 Education and subject to the specific appropriation therefor by  
519 the Legislature, the State Board of Education shall revise the

520 salary scale in the appropriate year to provide an additional one  
521 percent (1%) across the board increase in the base salaries for  
522 assistant teachers. The State Board of Education shall revise the  
523 salaries prescribed above for assistant teachers to conform to any  
524 adjustments made in prior fiscal years due to revenue growth over  
525 and above five percent (5%).

526 The assistant teachers shall not be restricted to working  
527 only in the grades for which the funds were allotted, but may be  
528 assigned to other classes as provided in subsection (2)(a) of this  
529 section.

530 (7) (a) As an alternative to employing assistant teachers,  
531 any school district may use the allotment provided under  
532 subsection (6) of this section for the purpose of employing  
533 licensed teachers for kindergarten, first-, second- and  
534 third-grade classes; however, no school district shall be  
535 authorized to use the allotment for assistant teachers for the  
536 purpose of employing licensed teachers unless the district has  
537 established that the employment of licensed teachers using such  
538 funds will reduce the teacher:student ratio in the kindergarten,  
539 first-, second- and third-grade classes. All state funds for  
540 assistant teachers shall be applied to reducing teacher:student  
541 ratio in Grades K-3.

542 It is the intent of the Legislature that no school district  
543 shall dismiss any assistant teacher for the purpose of using the  
544 assistant teacher allotment to employ licensed teachers. School  
545 districts may rely only upon normal attrition to reduce the number  
546 of assistant teachers employed in that district.

547 (b) Districts meeting Level 4 or 5 accreditation  
548 standards, as defined by the State Board of Education, shall be  
549 exempted from the provisions of subsection (4) of this section.

550 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
551 and after July 1, 2007.