

By: Representatives Henley, Criswell,
Eubanks, Hale, Hopkins

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 997

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
2 DISCONTINUE USING THE STATEWIDE EDUCATOR EVALUATION PROCESS KNOWN
3 AS THE "MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE TEACHER APPRAISAL RUBRIC (M-STAR)";
4 TO REQUIRE EACH SCHOOL BOARD TO IMPLEMENT A TEACHER EVALUATION
5 SYSTEM FOR EDUCATORS EMPLOYED IN THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO
6 REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OBTAIN APPROVAL OF ITS POLICY
7 ESTABLISHING AN EVALUATION SYSTEM FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
8 EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PREPARE
9 A MODEL POLICY THAT MAY BE ADOPTED BY LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS; AND FOR
10 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year,
13 the State Department of Education shall discontinue the use of the
14 statewide educator evaluation process known as the "Mississippi
15 Statewide Teacher Appraisal Rubric (M-STAR)," and it shall be the
16 duty of the school board of each school district in the state to
17 adopt and implement a teacher evaluation system.

18 (2) (a) Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the school
19 board of each local school district shall adopt and implement a
20 policy establishing an evaluation system designed to measure
21 teacher effectiveness for all licensed teachers employed in that
22 district. The evaluation system established under the policy must



23 be designed to promote continuous professional improvement in
24 instructional personnel in order to improve achievement at the
25 individual, school and district levels. In addition, the evaluation
26 system must include a process for monitoring and evaluating the
27 effective and consistent use of evaluation criteria by employees
28 having evaluation responsibilities and the overall effectiveness of
29 the evaluation system itself in improving instruction and student
30 learning.

31 (b) Before implementing an evaluation system
32 established under a policy pursuant to this subsection, the school
33 board shall submit the policy to the State Department of Education
34 for its approval of the evaluation system. If the department does
35 not approve the evaluation system, the policy must be returned to
36 the school board indicating the policy's deficiencies with
37 recommendations for correcting those deficiencies to the
38 satisfaction of the department.

39 (c) The State Department of Education shall prepare a
40 model policy establishing a teacher evaluation system which a
41 local school board, in its discretion, may adopt and follow.

42 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
43 and after July 1, 2016.

