

By: Representative Moore

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 870

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE SCHOOL BOARDS IN DISTRICTS WITH "D" AND "F" ACCOUNTABILITY
3 RATINGS TO ONLY APPOINT AND CONTRACT WITH INDIVIDUALS FOR THE
4 OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT WHO HAVE A PROVEN RECORD OF SUCCESS AND
5 HAVE SERVED IN AN ADMINISTRATOR'S CAPACITY IN AN "A," "B" OR "C"
6 RATED DISTRICT OR EQUALLY COMPARABLE ACCREDITED OUT-OF-STATE
7 DISTRICT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-9-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 37-9-13. (1) Each school district shall have a
12 superintendent of schools, selected in the manner provided by law.
13 No person shall be eligible to the office of superintendent of
14 schools unless such person shall hold a valid administrator's
15 license issued by the State Department of Education and shall have
16 had not less than four (4) years of classroom or administrative
17 experience.

18 (2) From and after January 1, 2019, in all public school
19 districts, the local school board shall appoint the superintendent
20 of schools of such district. At the expiration of the term of any



21 county superintendent of education elected at the November 2015
22 general election, the county superintendent of education of said
23 county shall not be elected but shall thereafter be appointed by
24 the local school board in the manner provided in Section 37-9-25.
25 The superintendent of schools shall have the general powers and
26 duties to administer the schools within his district as prescribed
27 in Section 37-9-14 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972. If a
28 vacancy occurs in the office of superintendent, which is now
29 elective, before January 1, 2019, that office shall immediately
30 become an appointive position.

31 (3) In selecting an individual to appoint to the office of
32 superintendent of schools of a school district, the school boards
33 of districts having "D" and "F" accountability ratings shall only
34 recruit, consider and make the appointment of individuals meeting
35 the requirements of subsection (1) of this section who have worked
36 as an administrator in a school district having an "A," "B" or "C"
37 accountability rating as determined by the system of accreditation
38 established by the State Department of Education and have a proven
39 record of success serving in that capacity. If the local board
40 recruits and considers an individual who resides outside of the
41 State of Mississippi for the office of superintendent, that
42 individual must have worked as an administrator in a school
43 district within the state of recruitment that has the three (3)
44 highest levels of accreditation which are equally comparable to
45 the accountability ratings used by the department for



46 accreditation purposes, in addition to having a proven record of
47 success serving in that capacity.

48 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
49 and after July 1, 2017.

