

By: Representative Miles

To: Universities and  
Colleges; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 34

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-106-37, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REVISE THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY  
3 REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARS FORGIVABLE LOAN  
4 PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-106-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 37-106-37. (1) There is created the Teacher Education  
9 Scholars Forgivable Loan Program to be administered by the board.  
10 The program shall provide an annual forgivable loan not to exceed  
11 Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for each approved teacher  
12 education scholar who is enrolled in one of Mississippi's public  
13 or private universities in the junior year and is admitted into a  
14 teacher education program. Additionally, the program shall  
15 provide an annual scholarship not to exceed Fifteen Thousand  
16 Dollars (\$15,000.00) for each approved teacher education scholar  
17 who is enrolled in one (1) of Mississippi's public or private  
18 universities in the freshman year and intends to enter into a  
19 teacher education program.



20 (2) Qualifying teacher education scholars must hold a  
21 minimum \* \* \* 23 ACT score and a \* \* \* 3.0 GPA.

22 (3) A student may receive a forgivable loan from the program  
23 for four (4) consecutive years if the student remains enrolled  
24 full time in the program and makes satisfactory progress toward a  
25 baccalaureate degree with a major in education.

26 (4) (a) If a teacher education scholar graduates and is  
27 employed as a teacher by a Mississippi district school board, the  
28 scholar is not required to repay the forgivable loan amount so  
29 long as the scholar teaches in a Mississippi public school. The  
30 entire forgivable loan amount shall be forgiven if the scholar  
31 remains employed as a Mississippi public school teacher for five  
32 (5) years.

33 (b) Any teacher who enters the education scholar  
34 program and graduates, and is employed as a teacher by a  
35 Mississippi public school board, in a school rated as "D" or "F,"  
36 in addition to being exempt from the repayment of loan requirement  
37 while employed as a Mississippi public school teacher, such  
38 teacher education scholar shall also receive an annual salary  
39 supplement of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for each year the  
40 scholar remains in the "D" or "F" school, up to a maximum of five  
41 (5) years. Each scholar employed in a Mississippi public school  
42 under the provisions of this paragraph shall endeavor, within the  
43 five-year period of initial employment, to fulfill the necessary  
44 requirements to acquire a Master Teacher certificate from the



45 National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, at which time  
46 the scholar shall be eligible to receive an annual salary  
47 supplement for such National Board Certified teachers under the  
48 provisions of Section 37-19-7(2)(a)(i). However, if any teacher  
49 education scholar graduate receiving an annual salary supplement  
50 provided for in this paragraph (b) shall complete the  
51 certification requirements to become a National Board Certified  
52 teacher within the five-year period of eligibility for salary  
53 supplementation, that teacher shall be entitled to only the annual  
54 salary supplement provided for such National Board Certified  
55 teachers, such that the teacher receives only one (1) annual  
56 salary supplement of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00).

57 (5) Repayment and conversion terms shall be the same as  
58 those outlined in Section 37-106-53.

59 (6) The board shall promulgate such rules as are necessary  
60 to administer the teacher education scholars program and establish  
61 necessary eligibility criteria not specifically set forth in this  
62 section.

63 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
64 and after July 1, 2018.

