

By: Representative Bennett

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 504
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-17-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION ON SCHOOL ACCREDITATION
3 TO REFLECT THE FOUR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AND APPOINTMENT OF
4 THREE MEMBERS FROM THE STATE AT LARGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-17-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 37-17-3. The Commission on School Accreditation created
9 under this section is hereby continued and reconstituted as
10 follows:

11 The State Board of Education shall appoint a "Commission on
12 School Accreditation" to be composed of fifteen (15) qualified
13 members. The membership of said commission shall be composed of
14 the following: two (2) classroom teachers, two (2) principals of
15 schools, one (1) administrator with expertise in special education
16 representing exceptional schools and students, one (1)
17 superintendent of a separate school district, one (1)
18 superintendent of a county or other school district, one (1) local
19 school board member from a separate school district; one (1) local



20 school board member from a county or other school district;
21 and * * * six (6) members who are not actively engaged in the
22 education profession. Members of the commission serving on July
23 1, 1994, shall continue to serve until their term of office
24 expires. No new appointments shall be made until such time as the
25 expiration of a member's term has reduced the commission to less
26 than fifteen (15) members, at which time new appointments shall be
27 made from the categories specified hereinabove. The membership of
28 said commission shall be appointed by the board upon
29 recommendation of the State Superintendent of Public Education.
30 In making the first appointments, five (5) members shall be
31 appointed for a term of one (1) year, five (5) members shall be
32 appointed for a term of two (2) years, five (5) members shall be
33 appointed for a term of three (3) years, and five (5) members
34 shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. Thereafter, all
35 members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. Said
36 commission shall meet upon call of the State Superintendent of
37 Public Education. * * * The commission shall consist of three (3)
38 members * * * from each of the four (4) congressional districts,
39 and three (3) members from the state at large. Each member of
40 said commission shall receive the per diem authorized by Section
41 25-3-69, Mississippi Code of 1972, plus actual and necessary
42 expenses and mileage as authorized by Section 25-3-41, Mississippi
43 Code of 1972, for each day actually spent in attending the
44 meetings of the commission. The expenses of said commission shall



45 be paid out of any funds available for the operation of the
46 central office of the State Department of Education.

47 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after its passage.

