

By: Representative Darnell

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1280

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO
2 RECOGNIZE TEACHERS WHO ACHIEVE PERFECT ATTENDANCE DURING A
3 SEMESTER; TO REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF A \$500 SALARY SUPPLEMENT TO
4 TEACHERS HAVING PERFECT ATTENDANCE; TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN ABSENCES
5 FOR PROFESSIONAL REASONS FROM CONSIDERATION OF A TEACHER'S
6 ATTENDANCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) The school board of each school district
9 shall establish a program to recognize teachers who achieve
10 perfect attendance during a semester. Under the program, a
11 teacher who has a record of perfect attendance for an entire
12 semester will receive a salary supplement in the amount of Five
13 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), subject to the availability of funding,
14 at the conclusion of each semester in which the teacher achieves
15 perfect attendance.

16 (2) For purposes of this section, a teacher has perfect
17 attendance whenever the teacher has not used any of the teacher's
18 vacation, personal or sick leave allowance, as provided for under
19 Section 37-7-307, during the semester. A teacher's use of
20 professional leave due to an absence that is caused by reason of



21 the teacher's statutorily required membership and attendance at a
22 regular or special meeting held within the state of the State
23 Board of Education, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator
24 Education, Certification and Licensure and Development, the
25 Commission on School Accreditation, the Mississippi Authority for
26 Educational Television, meetings of the state textbook rating
27 committees or other meetings required by the school board may not
28 be considered when determining whether or not the teacher has
29 achieved perfect attendance.

30 (3) A salary supplement paid to a teacher for perfect
31 attendance is in addition to all other compensation and benefits
32 to which the teacher is entitled. A school district may not
33 reduce the compensation of any teacher who receives a salary
34 supplement under this section.

35 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
36 and after July 1, 2023.

