MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Senator(s) Younger

REGULAR SESSION 2023

To: Economic and Workforce Development; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2067

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-73-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO MODIFY THE DIRECTIVE OF THE OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FROM PILOTING A CAREER COACHING PROGRAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS, TO IMPLEMENTING SUCH A PROGRAM FOR THE LONG TERM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 37-73-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

8 amended as follows:

9 37-73-3. (1) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, 10 the Office of Workforce Development shall * * * implement a career coaching program to support middle schools and high schools as 11 12 students are exposed, prepared and connected to career avenues within and beyond the classroom setting. Through strong 13 partnerships with economic and business leaders, paired with 14 15 viable relationships with school districts, the career coaches shall target the alignment of students' strengths with intentional 16 17 academic and work-based learning in pursuit of meaningful professional employment. 18

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23/SS36/R492 PAGE 1 (icj\kr)

S. B. No. 2067

19 (2)Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, the Office 20 of Workforce Development, working through the Department of 21 Employment Security as fiscal agent, shall establish rules and 22 regulations to operate the career coaching program, which may 23 include granting funds to eligible recipients such as state 24 agencies, regional workforce entities and other nonprofits, to 25 hire coaches. The Office of Workforce Development shall establish criteria for coaches and shall work with partner organizations to 26 27 identify candidates and measure outcomes.

28 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 29 and after its passage.

S. B. No. 2067 **~ OFFICIAL ~** 23/SS36/R492 ST: Comprehensive Career and Technical PAGE 2 (icj\kr) Education Reform Act; transition career coaching program from pilot to long term.