

By: Representative Hines

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 240

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-6-11 AND 37-6-13, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE GRANTED  
3 EXCUSED ABSENCES FROM REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS DUE TO FAMILY  
4 EMERGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ILLNESS OR DEATH OF AN IMMEDIATE  
5 FAMILY MEMBER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-6-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 37-6-11. The school boards of all school districts shall  
10 meet regularly at such time and at such place as shall be  
11 designated by an order entered upon the minutes thereof. Special  
12 meetings of such boards shall be held upon the call of the  
13 president thereof, or upon the call of a majority of the members  
14 thereof. Attendance at a special meeting may not be taken into  
15 account for purposes of per diem or annual salary compensation, as  
16 prescribed under Section 37-6-13.

17 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-6-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
18 amended as follows:



19           37-6-13. (1) Each person serving as a member of the school  
20 board of any school district shall receive per diem in the amount  
21 of One Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$112.00) for no more than  
22 thirty-six (36) meetings of the school board during any one (1)  
23 fiscal year or, in his or her discretion, irrevocably may choose  
24 to receive as compensation for his or her services an annual  
25 salary, subject to the following provisions:

26           (a) For a person serving as a member of the school  
27 board of a school district with less than five thousand (5,000)  
28 students enrolled in the school district, the person shall receive  
29 an annual salary of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00);

30           (b) For a person serving as a member of the school  
31 board of a school district with at least five thousand (5,000)  
32 students but less than ten thousand (10,000) students enrolled in  
33 the school district, the person shall receive an annual salary of  
34 not less than Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) but not more than  
35 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); and

36           (c) For a person serving as a member of the school  
37 board of a school district with greater than ten thousand (10,000)  
38 students enrolled in the school district, the person shall receive  
39 an annual salary of not less than Four Thousand Dollars  
40 (\$4,000.00) but not more than Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00).

41           This choice shall remain in force for all successive terms or  
42 periods of service of that member. The receipt of the  
43 compensation shall not entitle any member of a school board to



44 receive or be eligible for any state employee group insurance,  
45 retirement or other fringe benefits. Each member shall be  
46 reimbursed for the necessary expenses and mileage in attending  
47 meetings of the school board. In addition to the foregoing, all  
48 members may be reimbursed for mileage and actual expenses incurred  
49 in the further performance of their duties, including attendance  
50 at any mandatory school board training session or at regional and  
51 national education meetings, when such mileage and other expenses  
52 are authorized by the board prior to the date on which they occur.  
53 Detailed vouchers shall be submitted for reimbursement for all  
54 expenses authorized by this section. Such reimbursement shall be  
55 in accordance with Section 25-3-41.

56 Such expenses shall be paid on order of the school board by  
57 pay certificates issued by the superintendent of the school  
58 district involved against the funds available for payment of the  
59 administrative expense of the district.

60 (2) (a) If a member of a school board misses twenty percent  
61 (20%) or more of the meetings of the school board during a  
62 calendar year, except for absences caused by required military  
63 duty or a major family emergency as the result of the illness or  
64 death of an immediate family member, the member must reimburse the  
65 school district that portion of the total salary paid to the  
66 member that year which is proportionate to the number of meetings  
67 missed by the member in relation to the total number of school  
68 board meetings held during that year. For purposes of this



69 subsection, consideration may be given only to meetings of which  
70 public notice is required. For the purpose of this paragraph, the  
71 term "immediate family member" includes the spouse, children,  
72 parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters of the board member.

73 (b) Before February 1 of each year, the president of  
74 each local school board shall submit a report to the State Board  
75 of Education containing the names of any members of the school  
76 board who missed twenty percent (20%) or more of the school board  
77 meetings during the preceding calendar year.

78 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
79 and after July 1, 2024.

