

By: Senator(s) Boyd, Williams

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2330

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RETIRED
 2 TEACHER RETURN TO WORK TASK FORCE TO UNDERTAKE A COMPREHENSIVE
 3 ANALYSIS OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO TEACHERS AND SCHOOL
 4 ADMINISTRATORS RETURNING TO THE WORKFORCE WITHIN THE STATE; TO
 5 PROVIDE FOR THE GOALS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TASK FORCE; TO
 6 REQUIRE THE TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP AND REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND
 7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO THE LEGISLATURE ON OR
 8 BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2024; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is hereby created the Retired Teacher
 11 Return to Work Task Force to undertake a comprehensive analysis of
 12 all matters related to retired teachers and school administrators
 13 returning to the workforce within the state. The goal of the task
 14 force shall be to develop a recommendation to the Legislature on
 15 reforming the current statutory framework on teacher retirement
 16 benefits in an effort to welcome retired teachers and school
 17 administrators back to the workforce. The task force may propose
 18 legislation and rule changes based upon its recommendation.

19 (2) The members of the task force shall be as follows:



20 (a) The Chairmen of the Education Committees of the
21 Mississippi Senate and the Mississippi House of Representatives,
22 or his or her designee from their respective committee membership;

23 (b) The Chairmen of the Appropriations Committees of
24 the Mississippi Senate and the Mississippi House of
25 Representatives, or his or her designee from their respective
26 committee membership;

27 (c) One (1) member of the Mississippi State Senate, to
28 be named by the Lieutenant Governor; and one (1) member of the
29 Mississippi House of Representatives, to be named by the Speaker
30 of the House of Representatives, who are interested in retired
31 teachers and school administrators returning to the workforce;

32 (d) The State Superintendent of Public Education;

33 (e) One (1) representative from the Department of
34 Education with experience in retention and recruitment of teachers
35 and school administrators;

36 (f) One (1) representative from the PERS Board of
37 Trustees;

38 (g) One (1) representative from the Department of
39 Finance and Administration;

40 (h) One (1) representative from the Mississippi Office
41 of Workforce and Development;

42 (i) One (1) representative from the Attorney General's
43 Office;



44 (j) One (1) representative from an education advocacy
45 organization to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

46 (k) One (1) representative from the Mississippi
47 Association of School Superintendents;

48 (l) One (1) representative from the Mississippi
49 Association of School Administrators; and

50 (m) One (1) representative from an education advocacy
51 organization to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
52 Representatives.

53 (3) The task force shall meet within forty-five (45) days of
54 the effective date of this act. The task force shall:

55 (a) Evaluate current teacher shortage areas, including
56 analyzing critical teacher shortage areas, and consider current
57 teacher retention and recruitment efforts and compare these
58 efforts to other states with better performance outcomes compared
59 to Mississippi;

60 (b) Evaluate current legal framework that allows
61 retired teachers to be employed on a contract or part-time basis
62 with school systems in the state and consider how this framework
63 may be changed to alleviate teacher shortages throughout the
64 state;

65 (c) Explore options for full-time teachers and school
66 administrators returning to schools, including considering private
67 contracting as a potential option; and



68 (d) Consider potential solutions that would allow
69 retired teachers and school administrators to return to schools
70 without having a negative effect on the state's retirement system.

71 (4) The task force may request the assistance of the
72 Mississippi Department of Education, the Mississippi Department of
73 Finance and Administration or any other related entity or
74 organization with expertise on the subjects that the task force is
75 considering.

76 (5) The members of the task force shall elect a chair from
77 among the members. The task force shall develop and report its
78 findings and recommendations for proposed legislation to the
79 Legislature and proposed rules changes on or before December 1,
80 2024. A quorum of the membership shall be required to approve any
81 final report and recommendation. Members of the task force shall
82 be reimbursed for necessary travel expense in the same manner as
83 public employees are reimbursed for official duties from any
84 available funds, and members of the Legislature shall be
85 reimbursed in the same manner as for attending out-of-session
86 committee meetings.

87 (6) The Joint Legislative Committee on Performance
88 Evaluation and Expenditure Review shall provide necessary clerical
89 support for the meetings of the task force and the preparation of
90 the report. Proposed legislation shall be prepared by the
91 Legislative Services Offices of the Senate and House as requested.



92 (7) The task force shall be dissolved upon presentation of
93 its report.

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

