

By: Representative Roberson

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1619

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-31-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CLARIFY CONTRACTING AND COMPENSATION PROVISIONS FOR VOCATIONAL
3 INSTRUCTORS IN AGRICULTURAL RELATED VOCATION DURING THE DESIGNATED
4 TIME BETWEEN ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEARS AND BETWEEN ACADEMIC QUARTERS
5 FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT HAVE ADOPTED AN EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR
6 CALENDAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-31-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 37-31-13. (1) Any appropriation that may be made under the
11 provisions of Sections 37-31-1 through 37-31-15 shall be used by
12 the board for the promotion of vocational education as provided
13 for in the "Smith-Hughes Act" and for the purpose set forth in
14 Sections 37-31-1 through 37-31-15. The state appropriation shall
15 not be used for payments to high schools which are now receiving
16 other state funds, except in lieu of not more than one-half (1/2)
17 the amount that may be due such high schools from federal funds.
18 Only such portion of the state appropriation shall be used as may
19 be absolutely necessary to carry out the provisions of Sections
20 37-31-1 through 37-31-15, and to meet the federal requirements.



21 Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the state
22 appropriation shall not be used for payments to high schools for
23 conducting vocational programs for more than ten (10) months in
24 any school year, and only funds other than total funding formula
25 funds may be expended for such purpose.

26 (2) Subject to annual approval by the State Board of
27 Education, extended contracts for vocational agriculture education
28 services and other related vocational education services which
29 contribute to economic development may be conducted by local
30 school districts, and state appropriations may be used for
31 payments to school districts providing such services. The board
32 of trustees of each school district shall determine whether any
33 proposed services contribute to the economic development of the
34 area. Local districts may apply to the Division of Vocational and
35 Technical Education of the State Department of Education for any
36 state funds available for these extended contracts. The State
37 Board of Education shall establish the application process and the
38 selection criteria for this program. The number of state funded
39 extended contracts approved by the State Board of Education will
40 be determined by the availability of funds specified for this
41 purpose. The State Board of Education's decision shall be final.
42 Payments under this subsection shall only be available to those
43 high schools whose teachers of vocational programs are responsible
44 for the following programs of instruction during those * * * days
45 and weeks between the academic years and between academic quarters



46 for school districts having adopted the extended school year
47 calendar: (a) supervision and instruction of students in
48 agricultural or other vocational experience programs; (b) group
49 and individual instruction of farmers and agribusinessmen; (c)
50 supervision of student members of youth groups who are involved in
51 leadership training or other activity required by state or federal
52 law; or (d) any program of vocational agriculture or other
53 vocational-related services established by the Division of
54 Vocational and Technical Education of the State Department of
55 Education that contribute to the economic development of the
56 geographic area.

57 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
58 and after July 1, 2025.

