

By: Representative Frierson

To: Education

## HOUSE BILL NO. 694

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-9-211, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO COMPENSATE MENTOR TEACHERS  
3 FOR ADDITIONAL DUTIES PERFORMED UNDER THE BEGINNING TEACHER  
4 SUPPORT PROGRAM, TO GRANT ADDITIONAL RELEASE TIME FOR SUCH MENTOR  
5 TEACHERS AND TO EMPLOY SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR ASSUMING THE  
6 REGULAR TEACHING DUTIES OF MENTOR TEACHERS; AND FOR RELATED  
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 37-9-211, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 37-9-211. (1) The selection, nature and extent of duties of  
12 mentor teachers shall be determined by the school district. The  
13 following guidelines shall apply:

14 (a) No teacher shall be designated as a mentor teacher  
15 unless willing to perform in that role;

16 (b) No mentor teacher shall participate in the  
17 evaluation of beginning teachers;

18 (c) Each mentor teacher shall complete successfully a  
19 training workshop provided or approved by the Mississippi Teacher  
20 Center prior to participating in the beginning teacher support  
21 program; and

22 (d) If a mentor teacher receives additional release  
23 time to support a beginning teacher, it is expected that the total  
24 workload of other teachers regularly employed by the school  
25 district should not increase in any substantial manner.

26 (2) A district may: (a) compensate mentor teachers from any  
27 available funds for additional duties to support a beginning  
28 teacher which are performed after regular school hours; (b) grant

29 additional release time to mentor teachers for additional duties  
30 to support a beginning teacher which are performed after regular  
31 school hours; and (c) employ and compensate substitute teachers  
32 from any available funds for assuming the regular teaching duties  
33 of mentor teachers who are participating in the beginning teacher  
34 program.

35         SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
36 and after July 1, 1999.