

By: Representatives Weathersby, Rogers

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 766

1 AN ACT TO DEFINE THE COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING SERVICES TO BE  
2 PROVIDED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS; AND  
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year,  
6 the assignment of school guidance counselors in Grades K-12 to the  
7 particular schools within a school district shall be at the  
8 discretion of the local school board with the following  
9 restriction: No individual may be employed as a school guidance  
10 counselor without appropriate training and certification, as  
11 determined by the State Department of Education.

12 (2) School guidance counselors shall provide the following  
13 comprehensive counseling services:

- 14 (a) Academic and personal or social counseling;
- 15 (b) Student assessment and assessment counseling;
- 16 (c) Career and educational counseling;
- 17 (d) Individual and group counseling (large or small  
18 groups);
- 19 (e) Crisis intervention and preventive counseling;
- 20 (f) Referrals to community agencies;
- 21 (g) Educational consultation and collaboration with  
22 teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders;
- 23 (h) Educational and career placement services; and
- 24 (i) Follow-up counseling services.

25 (3) The State Department of Education may adopt rules and  
26 regulations regarding the activities of the school guidance  
27 counselors which are not inconsistent with this section.

28           (4) Nothing in this section may be construed to abrogate or  
29 affect in any manner the supervisory authority of the school  
30 principal over the school guidance counselor.

31           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
32 and after July 1, 2001.