

By: Representatives Warren, Lott

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 644

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

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

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year,
5 the assignment of Grades K-12 school guidance counselors to the
6 particular schools within a school district is at the discretion
7 of the local school board subject to the following provisions:

8 (a) No individual may be employed as a school guidance
9 counselor without, at a minimum, a master's degree in guidance and
10 counseling, as determined by the State Department of Education;
11 and

12 (b) School guidance counselors must be full-time
13 personnel with, at a minimum, a master's degree in guidance and
14 counseling.

15 (2) School guidance counselors shall provide the following
16 comprehensive counseling services:

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



28 (j) Conflict resolution.

29 (3) The State Department of Education may adopt regulations
30 regarding the activities of the school guidance counselors which
31 are not inconsistent with this section.

32 (4) School guidance counselors shall abide by the American
33 School Counselor Association Code of Ethics.

34 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
35 and after July 1, 2002.

