

By: Senator(s) Browning

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2139

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-6-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS OF A SCHOOL BOARD WHO RECEIVE AN ANNUAL
3 SALARY AS COMPENSATION FOR HIS OR HER SERVICES SHALL BE ELIGIBLE
4 FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-6-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 37-6-13. (1) Each person serving as a member of the school
10 board of any school district shall receive per diem in the amount
11 of Sixty-seven Dollars (\$67.00) for no more than thirty-six (36)
12 meetings of the school board during any one (1) fiscal year or, in
13 his or her discretion, irrevocably may choose to receive as
14 compensation for his or her services an annual salary in the
15 amount of Two Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400.00), which
16 choice shall remain in force for all successive terms or periods
17 of service of that member. The receipt of an annual salary as
18 compensation for his or her services shall not entitle any member
19 of a school board to receive or be eligible for any state employee
20 group insurance * * * or other fringe benefits except retirement.
21 Each member shall be reimbursed for the necessary expenses and
22 mileage in attending meetings of the school board. In addition to
23 the foregoing, all members may be reimbursed for mileage and
24 actual expenses incurred in the further performance of their
25 duties, including attendance at any mandatory school board
26 training session or at regional and national education meetings,
27 when such mileage and other expenses are authorized by the board
28 prior to the date on which they occur. Detailed vouchers shall be

29 submitted for reimbursement for all expenses authorized by this
30 section. Such reimbursement shall be in accordance with Section
31 25-3-41.

32 Such expenses shall be paid on order of the school board by
33 pay certificates issued by the superintendent of the school
34 district involved against the funds available for payment of the
35 administrative expense of the district.

36 (2) (a) If a member of a school board misses twenty percent
37 (20%) or more of the meetings of the school board during a
38 calendar year, except for absences caused by required military
39 duty, the member must reimburse the school district that portion
40 of the total salary paid to the member that year which is
41 proportionate to the number of meetings missed by the member in
42 relation to the total number of school board meetings held during
43 that year. For purposes of this subsection, consideration may be
44 given only to meetings of which public notice is required.

45 (b) Before February 1 of each year, the president of
46 each local school board shall submit a report to the State Board
47 of Education containing the names of any members of the school
48 board who missed twenty percent (20%) or more of the school board
49 meetings during the preceding calendar year.

50 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
51 and after July 1, 2004.