

July 12, 2000

Tracy D. Phillips
765 Jayess Road
Jayess, MS 39641

Dear Ms. Phillips:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning teacher pay. I always enjoy correspondence from caring individuals such as you who wish to teach. Regarding your concerns as to your years of experience for purposes of calculating your salary, MISS. CODE ANN. Section 37-19-1 (1972) states that the term "year of teaching experience" shall mean "nine (9) months of actual teaching in the public or private schools of this or some other state." Thus, only years of teaching experience may be used to calculate a teacher's salary. Any changes to this statutory provision would require legislative action.

Again, many thanks for taking the time to share your concerns with me.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr