

---

---

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

---

---

**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** MAE'S 2002 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA  
**DATE** 12/26/01  
**CC:** FILE

---

The Mississippi Association of Educators (MAE) has released its 2002 legislative agenda. I'll be meeting with Terry Lynn Hamm, MAE's Governmental Relations Liaison, to discuss the agenda. MAE will seek legislation which:

**TIER 1**

1. Guarantees a minimum of 63% of the General Fund be used for public education.
2. Reduces teacher/student ratios in classroom.
3. Provides improved health coverage to active education employees and works to ensure health insurance coverage to retired education employees.
4. Provides contracts and a minimum salary for full-time education support personnel.
5. Re-establishes Education Enhancement Fund monies for teachers use.

**TIER 2**

1. Provides funding for before and after school care at school facilities.
2. Provides opportunities for parenting skills and GED completion classes for teenage parents.
3. Repeals the prohibition of payroll for professional dues.
4. Sets effective standards for alternative teacher certification.
5. Allows accumulation of personal leave up to five (5) days.
6. Allows education employees to retain sick leave when transferring from one school district to another.

The MAE will continue to support:

1. Funding of the teacher pay bill
2. Issues around the Praxis exam and teacher certification
3. Continuation of the salary supplement for NBC Teachers

MAE will further research:

1. Dental / Vision Insurance (cost)
2. Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) (feasibility for Mississippi from other states)
3. Mandatory Attendance for Children at age 5 (ability of school district to comply)
4. Election Laws/School Boards (Candidates for election to local school boards should have a minimum of two (2) years of Higher Education/ legality)
5. Funding to institutions of higher learning/community college (teacher salaries and/or security of salaries at midpoint)