



State of Mississippi
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
DELBERT HOSEMANN
Lieutenant Governor

March 4, 2026

Ms. Nancy Looome
Parents Campaign
222 North President St. Suite 102
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Ms. Looome:

I am writing to express my disappointment in the House of Representatives' decision to kill Senate Bills 2001, 2003, and 2286. These measures would have provided a teacher pay raise, increased benefits for retired teachers who wish to return to the classroom and added resources for School Attendance Officers to address our state's chronic absenteeism rate of 27.6%.

It has been the position of the Mississippi Senate that matters of this magnitude deserve consideration as separate, standalone legislation. Addressing each issue individually allows legislators to fully debate and vote on the merits of each proposal and, when appropriate, increase financial commitments rather than combining multiple provisions with controversial issues into a single measure, as was done in HB2, HB 1126 and others.

Mississippi's teachers are essential to shaping our future, and our recent academic gains reflect their hard work and commitment in the classroom. Please be encouraged that the Senate remains committed to securing a teacher pay raise and will continue pursuing that goal through the appropriations process. We will also look for additional avenues to strengthen compensation and provide support for School Attendance Officers.

Please feel free to share this correspondence with your members. While we are disappointed in the House's actions, we remain committed to achieving meaningful results for Mississippi's educators.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Delbert Hosemann".

Delbert Hosemann
Lieutenant Governor
State of Mississippi