

2014 -- S 2738 SUBSTITUTE A

LC005098/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

A N A C T

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: March 06, 2014

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1           SECTION 1. Chapter 16-12 of the General Laws entitled "Rights and Duties of Teachers
- 2   Generally" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:
- 3           **16-12-11. Educator evaluations. – (a) Any board of education-approved educator**
- 4 **evaluation system for tenured teachers shall include, but not be limited to, the following**
- 5 **provisions:**
- 6           (1) Any teacher who obtains or earns a rating of "highly effective" or a number "4" or any
- 7 equivalent thereof shall, subsequent to such evaluation, be evaluated not more than once every
- 8 three (3) years thereafter.
- 9           (2) Any teacher who obtains or earns a rating of "effective" or a number "3" or any
- 10 equivalent thereof shall, subsequent to such evaluation, be evaluated not more than once every
- 11 two (2) years thereafter.
- 12           (3) An annual conference shall be required for any "highly effective" or "effective"
- 13 teacher included in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) herein. Said conference shall be in accordance
- 14 with a process and scope determined by each school district's educator evaluation committee.
- 15           (b) The provisions of this section shall not prohibit annual evaluations in circumstances
- 16 including, but not limited to:
- 17           (1) Any teacher who may request an annual evaluation; or
- 18           (2) Any teacher during his or her first year teaching under a new teaching certificate.
- 19           (c) Any non-tenured teacher shall be evaluated annually.

1           (d) Notwithstanding the provisions contained in subsection (a), principals may observe a  
2 teacher's classroom and classroom instruction at any time.

3           (e) Notwithstanding the provisions contained in subsection (a), nothing herein shall  
4 preclude more frequent educator evaluations if they are included in a local school district's  
5 negotiated collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2014.

6           (f) Notwithstanding the provisions contained in subsection (a), any concerns about a  
7 teacher's performance that arise at anytime shall be handled in accordance with local school  
8 district personnel policies and negotiated collective bargaining agreements.

9           (g) Any regulations of the department of education providing for the evaluation of  
10 teachers shall be modified to conform with the provisions and schedule set forth herein; provided,  
11 however, that nothing herein shall be construed to direct the department of education to act so as  
12 to jeopardize any current funding from a race to the top grant received by the state.

13           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on August 14, 2014.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would provide that teachers who obtain a rating of "highly effective" or the  
2   equivalent thereof would be evaluated not more than once every three (3) years, and that teachers  
3   who obtain a rating of "effective" or the equivalent thereof would be evaluated not more than  
4   once every two (2) years. This act would not preclude more frequent evaluations to comply with  
5   local school district negotiated collective bargaining agreements.

6           This act would take effect on August 14, 2014.

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