

HOUSE BILL 983

By Shaw

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49 and Title 55, relative to parents of public school students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-303(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

() To any parent or legal guardian of a public school student who has been expelled from school for a total of ten (10) or more days, consecutively or nonconsecutively, in any school year, and such parent or legal guardian refuses to appear at the school in person and discuss pertinent problems or matters of concern regarding the development and education of the student. Such person shall be ineligible for a license until the person participates in a parent-teacher conference or until a period of two (2) years has elapsed from the date of the tenth day of expulsion in the school year, whichever is later.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-502(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision:

(L) Is the parent or legal guardian of a public school student who has been expelled from school for a total of ten (10) or more days, consecutively or nonconsecutively, in any school year, and such parent or legal guardian refuses to appear at the school in person and discuss pertinent problems or matters of concern regarding the development and education of the student. The license of such licensee shall be revoked until such person participates in a parent-teacher conference or for a

period of two (2) years from the date of the tenth day of expulsion in the school year, whichever is later.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3017, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

()

(1) The director of schools for an LEA shall notify the department of safety when a parent or legal guardian of a student who has been expelled from school for a total of ten (10) or more days, consecutively or nonconsecutively, in any school year refuses to appear at the school in person and discuss pertinent problems or matters of concern regarding the development and education of the student. The director shall notify the department within ten (10) days of the tenth day of suspension in the school year. Within five (5) days of the receipt of such notice, the department shall send notice to any such parent or legal guardian who is a licensee that the licensee's license shall be suspended under title 55, chapter 50, for a period of two (2) years or until the licensee participates in a parent-teacher conference, whichever is later.

(2) Any person who has received notice of revocation pursuant to this subsection may request an administrative review under the procedures of §§ 55-50-511—55-50-514, except that the sole issue at any such review shall be whether by a preponderance of the evidence the person has been suspended from school for a total of ten (10) or more days, consecutively or nonconsecutively, in any school year.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.