



# State of Tennessee

## PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 751

### HOUSE BILL NO. 1686

By Representatives Smith, Kane, Forgety, Byrd, Harry Brooks, Whitson, Ragan, Weaver, Hicks, Powell, Holt, Rogers, Towns, Thompson, Hardaway, Calfee, Parkinson, Akbari, Moody, Moon, Mitchell, Terry, Dunn, Eldridge, Zachary, Reedy, Sherrell, Boyd, Vaughan, Dawn White, Crawford, Tillis, Camper, Hazlewood

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1854

By Senators Massey, Gardenhire

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to education.

WHEREAS, the Knox County School System and teachers piloted a pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system during the 2016-2017 school year; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of teachers in the Knox County School System responded positively to the developmental appropriateness and methods used in the previously piloted portfolio student assessment system; and

WHEREAS, when surveyed, teachers agreed that the previously piloted portfolio student assessment system accurately measured student achievement and growth; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education, in following state law that was passed in 2015, subsequently increased the standards for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, which resulted in a significant change to the portfolio student assessment and reporting system; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure reliable and measurable student growth scores for use in teacher evaluations for educators using the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system, and due to the unfortunate vendor failures with previous assessment changes, and in an effort to bring confidence to the new pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-105(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead:

(e) LEAs that receive pre-kindergarten program approval under §§ 49-6-103 - 49-6-110 shall utilize the pre-k/kindergarten growth portfolio model approved by the state board of education in the evaluation of pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers pursuant to § 49-1-302; provided, however, that for the 2017-2018 school year, employment termination and compensation decisions for pre-kindergarten or kindergarten teachers shall not be based solely on data generated by the portfolio model.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-105, is amended by adding the following as new subsections:

(f) Each LEA shall notify all teachers evaluated using a growth portfolio model of training and professional development opportunities available on growth portfolio models.

(g) Prior to the 2018-2019 school year, the department of education shall study the pre-k/kindergarten growth portfolio model, including the portfolio rubric, the method for the collection and submission of student work artifacts, and scoring. The study shall include feedback from pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers, as well as other teachers using other growth portfolio models.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1686

PASSED: April 2, 2018

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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RANDY MCNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR