

HOUSE BILL 2667

By Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
Chapter 3 and Title 49, relative to grade changing.

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

SECTION 1.

(a) The office of research and education accountability (OREA) in the office of the comptroller of the treasury shall investigate and report on unauthorized grade changes occurring at any public school or public charter school operating within the boundaries of any county having a population of over nine hundred thousand (900,000) according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census. OREA shall specifically identify and examine, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year and continuing through the 2017-2018 school year:

(1) The number of students by grade level that received a final grade on a report card or transcript that was changed, altered, or amended without documentation or other evidence to support the grade change in each school for each school year and the significance of such grade changes, alterations, or amendments on the students, local education agencies, or charter schools;

(2) The number of times an individual student's grade was changed, altered, or amended on a report card or transcript without documentation or other evidence to support the grade change in each school for each school year, including each year that the student was enrolled at that school and the significance of each grade change, alteration, or amendment;

(3) The number of school officials and school personnel authorized, or otherwise provided access, to change, alter, or amend grades reported on a student's report card or transcript in each school for each school year;

(4) The number of school officials and school personnel investigated, terminated, suspended, or otherwise reprimanded for changing, altering, or amending grades on a student's report card or transcript without documentation or other evidence to support the grade change, or without authorization from the school, local board of education, or governing body, in each school for each school year, including whether an official record of such activity by a school official or other school personnel was noted or otherwise recorded as part of the school official or other school personnel's employment record, and whether that school official or other school personnel later obtained employment in another school in a capacity that would allow that individual to access student grade reports or records;

(5) How student grade reports or records are accessed in each school, including whether any security protocols were in place to identify the individual accessing, changing, altering, or amending a student's grade information, and an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of any such protocols; and

(6) The number of student grade changes, alterations, or amendments occurring in each school that were aligned or otherwise in compliance with the policies of the school's local board of education or governing body.

(b) The OREA shall file its report containing its findings and conclusions and any recommendations concerning unauthorized grade changes occurring at any public school or public charter school operating within the boundaries of any county having a population of over nine hundred thousand (900,000) according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census with the education committees of the senate

and the house of representatives and with the government operations committees of the senate and the house of representatives no later than December 31, 2018.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.