

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 551

By Forgety

A RESOLUTION to direct the department of education to conduct another stakeholder survey concerning TEAM.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Education established the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM) to provide a framework for teachers and principals to work together to ensure that students benefit from the best possible instruction every day; and

WHEREAS, after implementation of TEAM in the 2011-2012 school year, in fulfillment of its commitment to allow stakeholders multiple opportunities to provide feedback on TEAM and at the direction of HJR 520 enacted by the One Hundredth Seventh General Assembly, the department conducted a survey of stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, after this survey that allowed stakeholders to provide feedback on their experiences using TEAM to drive teacher development and impact student performance through teacher evaluations, the department instituted several changes to TEAM, including the change in weighting evaluations for teachers without individual student growth data, such as special education teachers, art teachers, and foreign language teachers, from a 50-35-15 weighting of observations to student growth to other student achievement measures to a 65-25-15 weighting; and

WHEREAS, the department has stated that “[i]t is imperative that TDOE hear about teachers’ experiences with TEAM”; and

WHEREAS, significant changes have been made in TEAM in response to feedback from the first survey, it is once more imperative that the department hear about teachers’ experiences with TEAM so that the evaluation model may be further refined; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that the Tennessee Department of Education is hereby directed to conduct a survey of the same types of stakeholders as the department surveyed at the direction of HJR 520 of the One Hundredth Seventh General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the survey designed by the Tennessee Department of Education shall contain objective questions that seek honest and sincere answers from stakeholders that will be helpful in determining how to further refine the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM) so as to increase its effectiveness in driving teacher development and impacting student performance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the survey designed by the Tennessee Department of Education shall contain, at the end of the survey, a section that is left blank specifically to allow stakeholders to express their frank and candid opinions about the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM) and to give their suggestions as to how to improve TEAM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Department of Education shall report to the Education Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate by February 2, 2015, as to the amount of feedback that it has received from the second survey and the progress that it has made on additional refinements to the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM). The Department of Education shall report to the Education Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate by April 1, 2015, as to the changes and refinements that it shall make in TEAM based on the input it has received from this second survey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.