

SENATE BILL 1002

By Beavers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050, relative to home schools.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and by substituting instead the following:

(1) Upon commencing instruction in a home school, notify the local director of schools of the parent-teacher's decision to conduct a home school and, for the purpose of reporting only, submit to the director of schools the names and ages of the children being home schooled and provide assurance that the parent-teacher is providing a program of instruction in subjects commonly taught, including reading, writing, language arts, math, science, history or social studies, and other subjects deemed appropriate by the parent-teacher at a level appropriate to the age and ability of the child. Information contained in the reports may be used only for record keeping. The director of schools or the director's designee shall ensure that attendance teachers are informed of parents' rights to conduct a home school pursuant to § 49-6-3001(c)(4), subsection (a), and § 49-50-801 upon the employment of the attendance teacher and at the beginning of each school year;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b), is further amended by deleting subdivision (2) and by substituting instead the following:

(2) Maintenance of records for the current year necessary to demonstrate that the education referenced in subdivision (b)(1) is occurring, including the results of any assessments completed in accordance with subdivision (b)(5)(A);

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b), is further amended by deleting subdivision (3) and by substituting instead the following:

(3) Instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for the number of instructional days the parent-teacher deems necessary to provide the instruction required in subdivision (b)(1);

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b), is further amended by deleting subdivision (4).

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b), is further amended by deleting subdivision (5)(A) and by substituting instead the following:

(A) Assessment of home school students in a manner determined by the parent-teacher that provides the necessary formative and summative feedback to the parent-teacher to assist in the delivery of the instruction required in subdivision (b)(1).

Assessment records are to be maintained as required in subdivision (b)(2). A parent-teacher may choose to participate in administration of the same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students in grades five (5), seven (7), and nine (9) by the commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service that is approved by the LEA. However, if the parent-teacher chooses to participate in administration of the same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students, the high school proficiency test required by § 49-6-6001 is not to be administered for grade nine (9);

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(5)(B)(iii), is amended by deleting the word "All".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(6)(A), is amended by deleting the word "test" and by substituting instead the word "assessment".

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(6)(B), is amended by deleting the language:

mathematics or science test scores or such of these areas, regardless of the term used on the test, as are actually tested for the student's grade level, based on the tests and by substituting instead the language:

mathematics, or science assessment or test scores or any of these areas, regardless of the term used on the test or assessment, as are actually tested or assessed for the student's grade level, based on the assessment

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(6)(C)(i), is amended by deleting the language:

test score for two (2) consecutive tests based on the tests

and by substituting instead the language:

assessment or test score for two (2) consecutive assessments or tests based on the assessment

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(6)(C), is amended by deleting subdivision (ii) and by substituting instead the following:

(ii) If an assessment or test indicates that a home school student is one (1) year or more behind the home school student's appropriate grade level, the same assessment or test must be administered to the child not more than one (1) year later, notwithstanding the assessment required in subdivision (b)(5)(A);

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050(b)(7), is amended by deleting the language "Proof shall be submitted to the local director of schools" and by substituting instead the language "A parent-teacher shall maintain proof".

SECTION 12. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.