

SENATE BILL 1206

By Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 5, Part 5, relative to teacher eligibility for tenure.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-503, is amended by deleting subdivision (4) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(4) Has received evaluations demonstrating an overall performance effectiveness level of "meets expectations", "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations", as provided in the evaluation guidelines adopted by the state board of education pursuant to § 49-1-302, during the last two (2) years of the probationary period; and

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-504(a)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) Received evaluations demonstrating an overall performance effectiveness level of "meets expectations", "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations" provided by the evaluation guidelines adopted by the state board of education pursuant to § 49-1-302, during the last two (2) years of the teacher's probationary period.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-504, is amended by deleting subdivision (e) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(e) Any teacher who, after acquiring tenure status, receives two (2) consecutive years of evaluations demonstrating an overall performance effectiveness level of "below expectations" or "significantly below expectations", as provided by the evaluation guidelines adopted by the state board of education pursuant to § 49-1-302, shall be returned to probationary status until the teacher has received two (2) consecutive years

of evaluations demonstrating an overall performance effectiveness level of “meets expectations”, “above expectations” or “significantly above expectations”. When a teacher who has returned to probationary status has received two (2) consecutive years of evaluations demonstrating an overall performance effectiveness level of “meets expectations”, “above expectations” or “significantly above expectations”, the teacher is again eligible for tenure and shall be either recommended by the director of schools for tenure or nonrenewed; provided, however, that the teacher cannot be continued in employment if tenure is not granted by the board of education.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.