



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 975

SENATE BILL NO. 2181

By Haile, Crowe, Bowling, Stevens

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2057

By Ragan, Hawk, Tim Hicks, Alexander, Gant, Sherrell, Reedy, Cepicky, Helton, Moody

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

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly passed the "Tennessee Literacy Success Act" in 2021 to improve literacy rates across the State and to establish foundational literacy skills standards; and

WHEREAS, a literate society is essential to maintaining a free society; and

WHEREAS, every Tennessee student deserves a high-quality teacher; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee and other states must continue to work to strengthen teacher preparation; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-5619(b), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (1) and adding the following:

(2)(A) By August 1, 2024, and by each August 1 thereafter, the department, in consultation with the state board, shall annually report to the education committees of the senate and house of representatives the number and percentage of persons licensed to teach students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who are employed in Tennessee schools; who are trained by a state board-approved educator preparation provider or another entity responsible for managing, operating, or coordinating programs for the preparation and licensure of teachers, school leaders, and other school personnel; and who earned, for the immediately preceding school year, an overall performance evaluation level of "significantly above expectations," "above expectations," "at expectations," "below expectations," and "significantly below expectations." Notwithstanding § 49-5-5614, the department shall publish the report on the department's website.

(B) The report required by subdivision (b)(2)(A) must include the following information in both a graphic and tabular format:

(i) The numbers and percentages calculated pursuant to subdivision (b)(2)(A) for each of the three (3) most recent years of teacher overall performance evaluation level scores, aggregated by year and program;

(ii) The annual percentage by which each program is expected to reduce the percentage of persons licensed to teach students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who are employed in Tennessee schools; trained under this section; and who earned, for the immediately preceding school year, an overall performance evaluation level score of "below expectations," or "significantly below expectations," as determined by the department;

(iii) How the number and percentage of persons licensed to teach students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who are employed in a Tennessee school; trained by a state board-approved educator preparation provider or another entity responsible for managing, operating, or coordinating

programs for the preparation and licensure of teachers, school leaders, and other school personnel; and who earned, for the immediately preceding school year, an overall performance evaluation level score of "below expectations" or "significantly below expectations" change over time, aggregated by year and program; and

(iv) A comparison of the changes in percentages of overall performance evaluation level scores described in subdivision (b)(2)(B)(iii) with the expected reductions in the percentage of licensed teachers described in subdivision (b)(2)(B)(ii), with the programs evaluated on their success in reaching the expected reductions.

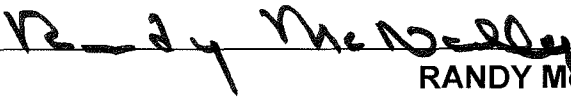
(C) The state board of education may place on probationary status or revoke the approval of an educator program provider or any other Tennessee educator issuing entity if the program fails to meet the standards established by the state board of education.

(D) The state board of education may promulgate rules as necessary to effectuate the requirements of subdivisions (b)(2)(A) and (B). The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

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

SENATE BILL NO. 2181

PASSED: April 14, 2022


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 3rd day of May 2022


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR