

SENATE BILL 2194

By Crowe

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, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(f)

(1) As used in this subsection, "accredited online school" means an online school that is accredited by one (1) of the following regional accrediting agencies:

(A) AdvancED;

(B) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI);

(C) North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI);

(D) Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC);

(E) Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA);

(F) Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools (MSCES);

(G) Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools (MSCSS);

(H) New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC);

(I) Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC);

(J) National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and affiliates;

and

(K) National Council of Private School Accreditation (NCPISA).

(2) A parent or legal guardian may conduct a home school by enrolling the student in an accredited online school; provided, that the parent or guardian:

(A) Notifies the local director of schools prior to each school year that the student will be homeschooled in an online school, provides proof of the student's enrollment in the school, and shows that the online school is listed on the web site of the department as an accredited online school;

(B) Acts as a parent-teacher and teaches, assists, and guides, as necessary for the student to obtain an understanding of the subjects being taught;

(C) Complies with the requirements of subsection (b) for independent home schools; and

(D) Makes arrangements for proctoring tests, which are administered and graded by the accredited online school, that are agreeable with the LEA;

(3) Any online school that seeks to enroll Tennessee home school students shall register with the department of education and provide proof of accreditation by a body listed in subdivision (f)(1). The department shall post the list of registered online accredited schools in which Tennessee home school students may enroll on its web site. A home school student may not be enrolled in any school that is not listed on the department's web site as an accredited online school.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.