

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-169

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H3/26/09

87th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL 2249

By: Representative Cheatham

Filed with: House Interim Committee on Education
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PUBLIC
SCHOOL TEACHER EVALUATIONS; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PUBLIC
SCHOOL TEACHER EVALUATIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17 is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 28 - Teacher Evaluations

6-17-2801. Findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Teacher evaluations are often brief reviews of performance with remediation plans that provide only a broad review of teaching methods that do little to help teachers with the specific performance areas that need improvement;

(2) The evaluator of a public school teacher should assist the teacher in improving his or her performance by providing the teacher with a timely, specific, and meaningful written evaluation of the teacher's performance and specific, written, educationally sound suggestions for improvement that are directly tied to performance areas; and



1 (3) The program of evaluation established under this subchapter
2 will provide effective and meaningful evaluations that teachers and
3 evaluators may use to work collaboratively to improve teacher performance.
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5 6-17-2802. Evaluations.

6 (a) The evaluator of a licensed classroom teacher who teaches students
7 in any grade from kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) in a public school
8 shall have at least three (3) years of successful teaching performance in
9 either the grade level or subject area, or a combination thereof, of the
10 teacher the evaluator is evaluating.

11 (b) An evaluation shall meet the following minimum requirements:

12 (1) A teacher shall be observed in a classroom setting for at
13 least thirty (30) minutes or a longer period of time sufficient to enable a
14 meaningful evaluation of the teacher's performance; and

15 (2) The details of an observation of teacher performance shall
16 be contemporaneously documented and the documentation provided to the teacher
17 within three (3) school days of the observation.

18 (c)(1) An evaluator shall inform a teacher in writing of any
19 observation that:

20 (A) Does not represent the most effective performance; or

21 (B) Demonstrates a failure to perform in a manner that the
22 evaluator determines would have resulted in a more effective performance.

23 (2) The evaluator shall include in the written evaluation any
24 educationally sound suggestion for a more effective performance by the
25 teacher.

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27 6-17-2803. Remediation.

28 (a) Any proposed remediation plan shall be in writing and shall
29 include a written explanation of:

30 (1) Each area that the teacher needs to improve; and

31 (2) How each item of the remediation plan is designed to help
32 remedy a specific area of needed improvement.

33 (b) Any required remediation shall be:

34 (1) In writing;

35 (2) Collaboratively developed between the teacher and the
36 evaluator; and

1 (3) Directly related to and designed to specifically address
2 each identified area of performance that needs improvement.

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5 /s/ Cheatham
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