
DIGEST

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HB 555 Original

2021 Regular Session

Thompson

Abstract: Prohibits the use of data derived from a value-added model (VAM) as a factor in measuring student growth for the purpose of teacher evaluations.

Present law requires annual evaluations of all public school teachers and administrators. Provides that the elements of evaluation and standards for effectiveness shall be defined by BESE. Provides that evaluation plans include a job description, a professional growth plan, observation and conferencing, classroom visitation, and a measure of effectiveness. Proposed law retains present law.

Relative to the measure of effectiveness, present law requires that 50% of each evaluation be based on evidence of growth in student achievement, as determined by BESE, using a value-added model (commonly known as VAM). Proposed law retains the requirement that 50% of each evaluation be based on evidence of growth in student achievement as determined by BESE but prohibits the use of VAM data and requires BESE to study best practices from other states with respect to developing a method for measuring student growth.

Present law provides for a subcommittee of the BESE's Accountability Commission to study and report relative to the effectiveness of the evaluation program, including VAM. Proposed law repeals present law provisions relative to this subcommittee, which was subject to several reporting deadlines that have passed.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17: 3881(A), 3886(A), 3902(B)(5), and 3997(D)(1)(a) and (2)(a); Repeals R.S. 17:3883(A)(6), (7), and (8))