

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 118

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study issues relative to the implementation of the state's teacher evaluation program and to report its findings and recommendations, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, beginning this year, teachers and other school employees are being evaluated using the COMPASS evaluation rubric; and

WHEREAS, in developing COMPASS, the state Department of Education collaborated with educators, parents, and state and local policymakers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to COMPASS, teachers are given the following performance ratings as a result of their evaluations—highly effective, effective: proficient, effective: emerging, and ineffective; and

WHEREAS, fifty percent of each teacher's evaluation is based on student academic achievement and the remaining half is based on observations by the teacher's principal or the principal's designee; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the first year of implementation, changes were made to COMPASS in response to concerns raised by many educators and policymakers; and

WHEREAS, these changes were made in order to make the program more effective and to provide more clarity to teachers as to how the performance ratings are derived and how they can use that information to grow; and

WHEREAS, as COMPASS continues to be a work in progress, further changes and improvements may be necessary in order to ensure that the final product is the right one and is the most reliable and effective tool for evaluating the performance of teachers and other school employees.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study issues relative to the implementation of the state's teacher evaluation program, including but not limited to the value-added model used and the ratings given to teachers based on the evaluation results and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting such study, the board shall specifically consider and report on the following:

(1) Changing the requirement that fifty percent of the evaluation be based on student academic achievement to instead require that it count for forty percent or other appropriate lesser amount.

(2) Allowing a rating of ineffective to be offset by a rating of effective on certain evaluation components.

(3) Discontinuing the use of percentiles in the value-added performance spectrum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state superintendent of education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES