

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 533

BY REPRESENTATIVES SEABAUGH AND REYNOLDS

TEACHERS/EVALUATION: Prohibits the inclusion of test scores of a student who has excessive absences in the value-added model or in other measures of student growth for purposes of teacher evaluations

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3902(B)(5), relative to the evaluation program for teachers
3 and administrators; to prohibit the inclusion of the test scores of certain students in
4 the value-added assessment model; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:3902(B)(5) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §3902. Evaluation program; process

8 * * *

9 B. The elements of evaluation and standards for effectiveness shall be
10 defined by the board pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated for such purpose.
11 Such rules and regulations shall require that, at a minimum, local evaluation plans
12 contain the following elements:

13 * * *

14 (5) Measure of effectiveness. ~~By the beginning of the 2012-2013 school~~
15 ~~year, fifty~~ Fifty percent of such evaluations shall be based on evidence of growth in
16 student achievement using a value-added assessment model as determined by the
17 board for grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is available. For

1 grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is not available and for
 2 personnel for whom value-added data is not available, the board shall establish
 3 measures of student growth. The model shall take into account important student
 4 factors, including but not limited to special education, eligibility for free or reduced
 5 price meals, student attendance, and student discipline. However, neither the value-
 6 added model nor the measures of student growth for grade levels and subjects for
 7 which value-added data are not available shall, in any given year, include a test score
 8 or data of a student who has ten or more unexcused absences in any school semester
 9 in that year. The state board shall develop and adopt a policy to invalidate such
 10 student growth data for any teacher for any school year in which there is a natural
 11 disaster or any other unexpected event that results in the temporary closure of the
 12 school.

13 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Seabaugh

HB No. 533

Abstract: Prohibits the inclusion of the test scores of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences in a semester in the value-added assessment model or other measures of student growth used in the teacher evaluation program.

Present law provides that every teacher and administrator who is employed by a local board shall be formally evaluated annually by the local school board pursuant to present law.

Present law provides that the elements of evaluation and standards for effectiveness shall be defined by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and shall require that, at a minimum, local evaluation plans contain certain elements, including a job description, a professional growth plan, observation and conferencing, and classroom visitation.

Present law requires that one such element be a measure of effectiveness. Further provides that 50% of such evaluations shall be based on evidence of growth in student achievement using a value-added assessment model for grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is available.

Proposed law provides that neither the value-added model nor other measures of student growth, in any given year, shall include a test score or data of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences in any school semester in that year; otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:3902(B)(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Changes proposed law from providing that the model shall not include any test score of a student who is habitually absent or tardy as defined in present law (five unexcused occurrences in a semester if all reasonable efforts to correct the problem have failed) providing that the model shall not include any test score of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences in any semester.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Provided that the prohibition of inclusion of test scores of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences also applies to the measures of student growth for which value-added data are not available.
2. Specified that the prohibition of inclusion of test scores of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences applies only to the year in which said absences occurred.