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## DIGEST

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HB 545 Original

2017 Regular Session

James

**Abstract:** Prohibits assignment of letter grades to schools or school districts or any other implementation of the school and district accountability system for a school year in which there is a declared natural disaster.

Present law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to provide for a system of accountability for schools and school districts based, in part, on growth in student achievement using a value-added assessment model (VAM). Also requires the assignment of letter grades to schools and school districts.

Present law requires BESE to develop and adopt a policy to invalidate student achievement growth data using VAM for any school year in which there is a natural disaster or any other unexpected event that results in the temporary closure of schools.

Proposed law instead provides that notwithstanding present law, neither BESE nor the state Dept. of Education shall assign a letter grade to any school or school district or in any other way implement present law relative to the school and district accountability system for any school year in which there is a natural disaster or catastrophe declared by the governor.

(Amends R.S. 17:10.1(C))