

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 543

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

TEACHERS/EVALUATION: Provides relative to the value-added model used to evaluate teachers and administrators

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3902(B)(5), relative to teacher evaluations; to provide that the  
3 value-added model used to evaluate teachers and administrators shall be optional for  
4 city, parish, and other local public school boards; to permit local public school  
5 boards to use a modified model; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

8 §3902. Evaluation program; process

9 \* \* \*

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

14 \* \* \*

15 (5) Measure of effectiveness. Fifty percent of such evaluations shall be  
16 based on evidence of growth in student achievement using a value-added assessment  
17 model as determined by the board for grade levels and subjects for which value-  
18 added data is available. The use of the model by a local board is optional. If a local  
19 board chooses to use the model, it may use it in accordance with the requirements of  
20 this Paragraph and state board rules and regulations or it may modify the model for  
21 use as it determines necessary and appropriate. For grade levels and subjects for  
22 which value-added data is not available and for personnel for whom value-added  
23 data is not available, the board shall establish measures of student growth. The

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

10 \* \* \*

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)]

HB 543 Original

2016 Regular Session

Hoffmann

**Abstract:** Provides that the value-added model (VAM) used to evaluate teachers and administrators shall be optional instead of required for local public school boards. Permits a local board to use a modified model.

Present law relative to teacher evaluations requires city, parish, and other local public school boards to use a value-added assessment model as determined by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for evaluating teachers and administrators. Requires that 50% of such evaluations shall be based on evidence of growth in student achievement using the model for grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is available. For grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is not available and for personnel for whom value-added data is not available, provides that BESE shall establish measures of student growth. Further requires that the model shall take into account important student factors, including but not limited to special education, eligibility for free or reduced price meals, student attendance, and student discipline. Prohibits the value-added model and the measures of student growth for grade levels and subjects for which value-added data are not available from including a test score or data of a student who has 10 or more unexcused absences in any school semester in that year. Provides that BESE shall adopt a policy to invalidate such student growth data for any teacher for any school year in which there is a natural disaster or any other unexpected event that results in the temporary closure of the school. Proposed law retains present law but makes the use of the model optional instead of mandatory for local boards. Permits a local board to choose to use the model in accordance with present law and state board rules and regulations or to modify the model for use as it determines necessary and appropriate.

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