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S.B. No. 1383

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an appraisal and professional development system for public school principals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 21.354, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.354. APPRAISAL OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATORS.

SECTION 2. Section 21.354, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) This section does not apply to the appraisal of the performance of a principal.

SECTION 3. Subchapter H, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.3541 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.3541. APPRAISAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM FOR PRINCIPALS. (a) The commissioner by rule shall establish and shall administer a comprehensive appraisal and professional development system for principals.

(b) The commissioner may establish a consortium of nationally recognized experts on educational leadership and policy to:

(1) assist the commissioner in effectively researching and developing the comprehensive appraisal and professional development system described by Subsection (a); and

(2) evaluate relevant research and practices and make

1 recommendations to the commissioner to improve the quality of the  
2 training, appraisal, professional development, and compensation of  
3 principals.

4 (c) If the commissioner establishes the consortium, the  
5 commissioner shall select a presiding officer of the consortium.

6 The presiding officer:

7 (1) must be an expert on educational leadership and  
8 policy;

9 (2) must have a demonstrated ability to lead a  
10 statewide school leadership reform initiative; and

11 (3) may not be employed by a school district in this  
12 state.

13 (d) The commissioner shall establish school leadership  
14 standards and a set of indicators of successful school leadership  
15 to align with the training, appraisal, and professional development  
16 of principals.

17 (e) In carrying out the commissioner's powers and duties  
18 under this section, the commissioner may use only money available  
19 from private sources that may be used for that purpose.

20 (f) In appraising principals, each school district shall  
21 use either:

22 (1) the appraisal system and school leadership  
23 standards and indicators developed or established by the  
24 commissioner under this section; or

25 (2) an appraisal process and performance criteria:

26 (A) developed by the district in consultation  
27 with the district-level and campus-level committees established

1 under Section 11.251; and

2 (B) adopted by the board of trustees.

3 (g) Each school district shall appraise each principal  
4 annually.

5 (h) Not later than December 1 of 2012 and 2014, the  
6 commissioner shall submit a written report to the governor,  
7 lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and  
8 presiding officer of each standing legislative committee with  
9 primary jurisdiction over public education of:

10 (1) any action taken under this section; and

11 (2) any recommendations for legislative action  
12 concerning the training, appraisal, professional development, or  
13 compensation of principals.

14 (i) Subsection (h) and this subsection expire January 1,  
15 2015.

16 SECTION 4. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by  
17 amending Subsections (a) through (d) and adding Subsection (a-1) to  
18 read as follows:

19 (a) The staff development provided by a school district to  
20 an educator other than a principal must be:

21 (1) conducted in accordance with standards developed  
22 by the district; and

23 (2) designed to improve education in the district.

24 (a-1) Section 21.3541 and rules adopted under that section  
25 govern the professional development provided to a principal.

26 (b) The staff development described by Subsection (a) must  
27 be predominantly campus-based, related to achieving campus

1 performance objectives established under Section 11.253, and  
2 developed and approved by the campus-level committee established  
3 under Section 11.251.

4 (c) For staff development under Subsection (a), a [A] school  
5 district may use district-wide staff development developed and  
6 approved through the district-level decision process under Section  
7 11.251.

8 (d) The staff development:

9 (1) may include training in:

10 (A) technology;

11 (B) conflict resolution; and

12 (C) discipline strategies, including classroom  
13 management, district discipline policies, and the student code of  
14 conduct adopted under Section 37.001 and Chapter 37; and

15 (2) subject to Subsection (e) and to Section 21.3541  
16 and rules adopted under that section, must include training based  
17 on scientifically based research, as defined by Section 9101, No  
18 Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Section 7801), that:

19 (A) relates to instruction of students with  
20 disabilities; and

21 (B) is designed for educators who work primarily  
22 outside the area of special education.

23 SECTION 5. Subsection (e), Section 21.354, Education Code,  
24 is repealed.

25 SECTION 6. Notwithstanding Sections 21.354 and 21.451,  
26 Education Code, as amended by this Act, until an appraisal and  
27 professional development system for principals under Section

1 21.3541, Education Code, as added by this Act, is implemented,  
2 public school principals shall be appraised under Section 21.354,  
3 Education Code, as that section existed before amendment by this  
4 Act, and the staff development of principals is governed by Section  
5 21.451, Education Code, as that section existed before amendment by  
6 this Act.

7         SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.