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S.B. No. 1383

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to an appraisal and professional development system for
3 public school principals.

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

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

7 Sec. 21.354. APPRAISAL OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATORS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (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 shall use available money from
19 federal, private, and any other sources that may be used for that
20 purpose.

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

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

26 (2) an appraisal process and performance criteria
27 similar to the commissioner's appraisal system, standards, and

1 indicators:

2 (A) developed by the district in consultation
3 with the district- and campus-level committees established under
4 Section 11.251; and

5 (B) adopted by the board of trustees.

6 (g) Each school district shall appraise each principal
7 annually.

8 (h) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,
9 the commissioner shall submit a written report to the governor,
10 lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and
11 presiding officer of each standing legislative committee with
12 primary jurisdiction over public education of:

13 (1) any action taken under this section during the
14 preceding two years; and

15 (2) any recommendations for legislative action
16 concerning the training, appraisal, professional development, or
17 compensation of principals.

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

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

23 (1) conducted in accordance with standards developed
24 by the district; and

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

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

1 (b) The staff development described by Subsection (a) must
2 be predominantly campus-based, related to achieving campus
3 performance objectives established under Section 11.253, and
4 developed and approved by the campus-level committee established
5 under Section 11.251.

6 (c) For staff development under Subsection (a), a [A] school
7 district may use district-wide staff development developed and
8 approved through the district-level decision process under Section
9 11.251.

10 (d) The staff development:

11 (1) may include training in:

12 (A) technology;

13 (B) conflict resolution; and

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

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

21 (A) relates to instruction of students with
22 disabilities; and

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

25 SECTION 5. Section 21.354(e), Education Code, is repealed.

26 SECTION 6. Notwithstanding Sections 21.354 and 21.451,
27 Education Code, as amended by this Act, until an appraisal and

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

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