

**SB280 ENGROSSED**



1 SB280  
2 DGQ1WHH-2  
3 By Senators Orr, Chesteen, Waggoner, Barfoot, Elliott, Stutts,  
4 Chambliss, Kitchens, Shelnutt, Hovey, Kelley, Bell, Melson,  
5 Sessions, Livingston, Gudger, Weaver, Givhan, Allen, Jones  
6 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education  
7 First Read: 01-Apr-25



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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 education; to create the Alabama Teacher Paperwork Streamlining Act; to require the State Department of Education to develop a unified digital platform and a system of data sharing that consolidates documentation required by the Alabama Literacy Act, the Alabama Numeracy Act, individualized education programs, Section 504 Plans, and other educational programs; to provide for a statewide teacher advisory committee; to require compliance, and to repeal Section 16-6B-11, Code of Alabama 1975, providing for the creation and operation of the Paperwork Reduction Committee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the Alabama Teacher Paperwork Streamlining Act.

(b) The purpose of this section is to accomplish all of the following:

(1) Streamline and reduce the paperwork burdens placed on Alabama teachers related to the required documentation for the Alabama Literacy Act, the Alabama Numeracy Act, individualized education Programs, plans developed under



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Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794 (Section 504 Plans), and other educational programs.

(2) Improve teacher morale and retention by reducing noninstructional administrative burdens.

(c) The State Department of Education shall do all of the following:

(1) Work with local boards of education to create a unified digital platform that consolidates the required documentation for the Alabama Literacy Act, Alabama Numeracy Act, individualized education programs, Section 504 Plans, and other relevant educational programs into a single, user-friendly system.

(2) Collaborate with stakeholders including, but not limited to, teachers, administrators, and legal experts, to:

a. Eliminate redundant documentation requirements across different programs;

b. Standardize forms and reporting formats to reduce complexity and time spent on paperwork; and

c. Ensure that documentation requirements align with state and federal rules and regulations, while reducing unnecessary paperwork.

(3) Develop and implement, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a system of data sharing among the Alabama Literacy Act, the Alabama Numeracy Act, individualized education programs, Section 504 Plans, and other educational programs to ensure that information entered once is able to be used across multiple documentation platforms to reduce repetitive input by teachers.



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(4) Annually review and audit all paperwork requirements to assess if further streamlining is necessary. The department shall actively solicit input from teachers during the annual review process.

(d) (1) The Alabama Public Education Paperwork Reduction Committee is created. The committee shall consist of teachers representing all grade levels and as many subject matters as practicable. The committee shall include one principal, one curriculum director, one special education coordinator, one instructional coach, and one interventionist. Not less than 75 percent of the membership of the committee shall consist of nonadministrative teachers actively engaged in full-time classroom instruction.

(2)a. The organizational meeting of the committee shall be held no later than September 1, 2025. At the organizational meeting, and annually thereafter, the membership of the committee shall elect a chair from among its membership. The committee shall meet quarterly to assess the effectiveness of paperwork streamlining measures, offer recommendations for further improvement, and ensure that teachers' needs are being met in the areas of paperwork reduction. If more than 100 days have elapsed since the last meeting of the committee, a meeting may be called by the chair or by written petition of a majority of the membership of the committee.

b. Members of the committee may participate in a meeting of the committee by means of telephone conference, video conference, or similar communications equipment by means of which all members participating in the meeting may hear



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85 each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall  
86 constitute presence in person at a meeting for all purposes,  
87 including constituting a quorum.

88 (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall solicit  
89 applications from teachers to serve on the committee. From  
90 those applications, the state superintendent shall submit  
91 recommendations to the State Board of Education for  
92 appointment to a two-year term. The nominating and appointing  
93 authorities shall coordinate their nominations and  
94 appointments to assure the committee membership is inclusive  
95 and reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and  
96 economic diversity of the state. Vacancies shall be filled in  
97 a like manner.

98 (4) The committee shall submit a report to the State  
99 Superintendent of Education after each meeting. The report  
100 shall include recommendations for reducing paperwork  
101 requirements for public school teachers and an overview  
102 detailing the effectiveness of existing measures. The State  
103 Superintendent of Education shall respond, in writing, to the  
104 recommendations of the committee and shall submit each report,  
105 with his or her response, to the State Board of Education for  
106 discussion during the next board meeting. No additional  
107 required paperwork mandate shall be implemented by the State  
108 Department of Education or State Board of Education without  
109 first vetting the requirement with and receiving approval from  
110 the committee.

111 (5) Members of the committee shall not be compensated  
112 for their service but may be reimbursed their actual expenses



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for attending committee meetings. A local board of education shall provide any teacher appointed to the committee with permission to attend committee meetings and may not deduct from that teacher's leave or pay for his or her attendance of committee meetings.

(e) (1) All local boards of education shall comply with this section and the requirements developed by the department regarding the use of the streamlined paperwork system. The State Department of Education shall conduct annual audits to ensure compliance with these requirements.

(2) Any local board of education failing to implement the streamlined documentation system shall face corrective action including, but not limited to, retraining of administrators or other measures to ensure compliance with this section.

(f) The Legislature shall allocate necessary funding to the State Department of Education to support the development and maintenance of the unified digital platform, training for teachers, and support for local boards of education in streamlining paperwork.

Section 2. Section 16-6B-11, Code of Alabama 1975, providing for the creation and operation of the Paperwork Reduction Committee, is repealed.

Section 3. This act shall become effective on June 1, 2025.



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138  
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140 Senate

141 Read for the first time and referred .....01-Apr-25  
142 to the Senate committee on Finance  
143 and Taxation Education

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145 Read for the second time and placed .....03-Apr-25  
146 on the calendar:  
147 0 amendments

148  
149 Read for the third time and passed .....15-Apr-25  
150 as amended

151 Yeas 29  
152 Nays 0  
153 Abstains 0

154  
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156 Patrick Harris,  
157 Secretary.  
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