

SB280 INTRODUCED



1 SB280
2 DGQ1WHH-1
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



SYNOPSIS:

This bill would create the Alabama Teacher Paperwork Streamlining Act.

This bill would streamline and reduce teacher paperwork burdens relating to the Alabama Literacy Act, the Alabama Numeracy Act, individualized education programs, Section 504 Plans, and other educational programs.

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.



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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 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



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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.

(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) A teacher advisory committee shall be formed. The advisory committee shall consist of representative teachers from various school districts located across the state and shall meet quarterly to assess the effectiveness of the paperwork streamlining measures, offer recommendations for further improvements, and ensure that teachers' needs are being met in the areas of paperwork reduction.

(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



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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.