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HOUSE BILL NO. 970

Offered January 24, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-253.13:5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Board of Education.

Patrons—Day, Baskerville, Brink, Cranwell and Spruill

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 22.1-253.13:5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 22.1-253.13:5. Standard 5. Training and professional development.

A. The General Assembly and the Board of Education find that programs of professional development and training and appropriate teacher performance evaluations are essential for effective educational leadership and personnel and the advancement of public education in the Commonwealth.

B. Each member of the Board of Education shall participate in in-service programs on personnel, curriculum and current issues in education as part of his service on the Board. *In addition, each member, following initial appointment to the Board, shall take the eighth grade Standards of Learning assessments in English, mathematics, science, and social sciences. The results of such assessments shall be publicly reported.*

C. Consistent with the finding that leadership is essential for the advancement of public education in the Commonwealth, the Board of Education shall develop leadership standards for superintendents and principals, which standards shall include training in the implementation of the Standards of Learning and training in the evaluation and documentation of teacher and administrator performance based on student academic progress and the skills and knowledge of instructional personnel.

D. The Board of Education shall sponsor, conduct or provide advice on (i) training and professional development of teachers, principals, supervisors, division superintendents and other school staff; (ii) training for all administrative and supervisory personnel in the evaluation and documentation of teacher and administrator performance based on student academic progress and the skills and knowledge of such instructional or administrative personnel; (iii) in-service programs for school board members on personnel, curriculum and current issues in education; and (iv) in cooperation with the Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped, in-service programs in Braille for teachers of the blind and visually impaired. The Board shall provide technical assistance on professional development to local school boards designed to seek to ensure that all instructional personnel are proficient in the use of educational technology consistent with its Six-Year Educational Technology Plan for Virginia.

E. Each local school board shall require (i) its members to participate annually in in-service programs on personnel, curriculum and current issues in education as part of their service on the local board and (ii) require the division superintendent to participate annually in professional development activities at the local, state or national levels.

F. Each local school board shall provide (i) a program of professional development, as part of the license renewal process, to assist teachers and principals in acquiring the skills needed to work with gifted students and handicapped students and to increase student achievement, (ii) a program of professional development in educational technology for all instructional personnel, and (iii) a program of professional development for administrative personnel designed to increase proficiency in instructional leadership and management, including training in the evaluation and documentation of teacher and administrator performance based on student academic progress and the skills and knowledge of such instructional or administrative personnel.

INTRODUCED

HB970