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SENATE BILL 497

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

John M. Sapien

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE TO
REQUIRE THAT TEACHER EVALUATIONS INCLUDE QUANTIFIABLE DATA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
Chapter 153, Section 35, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 315,
Section 4 and by Laws 2005, Chapter 316, Section 1) is amended
to read:

"22-10A-4. TEACHERS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS--
PROFESSIONAL STATUS--LICENSURE LEVELS--SALARY ALIGNMENT.--

A. Teaching and school administration are
recognized as professions, with all the rights,
responsibilities and privileges accorded professions, having
their first responsibility to the public they serve. The
primary responsibilities of the teaching and school

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1 administration professions are to educate the children of this
2 state and to improve the professional practices and ethical
3 conduct of their members.

4 B. The New Mexico licensure framework for teachers
5 and school administrators is a progressive career system in
6 which licensees are required to demonstrate increased
7 competencies and undertake increased duties as they progress
8 through the licensure levels. The minimum salary provided as
9 part of the career system shall not take effect until the
10 department has adopted increased competencies for the
11 particular level of licensure and a highly objective uniform
12 statewide standard of evaluation in which quantifiable data
13 relating to a teacher's performance shall account for at least
14 thirty percent of a teacher's overall evaluation.

15 C. A level one license is a provisional license
16 that gives a beginning teacher the opportunity, through a
17 formal mentorship program, for additional preparation to be a
18 quality teacher. A level two license is given to a teacher who
19 is a fully qualified professional who is primarily responsible
20 for ensuring that students meet and exceed department-adopted
21 academic content and performance standards; a teacher may
22 choose to remain at level two for the remainder of the
23 teacher's career. A level three-A license is the highest level
24 of teaching licensure for those teachers who choose to advance
25 as instructional leaders in the teaching profession and

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1 undertake greater responsibilities such as curriculum
2 development, peer intervention and mentoring. A level three-B
3 license is for teachers who commence a new career path in
4 school administration by becoming school administrators.

5 D. All teacher and school administrator salary
6 systems shall be aligned with the licensure framework in a
7 professional educator licensing and salary system.

8 E. All teachers and school administrators who hold
9 teaching or administrator certificates on the effective date of
10 the 2003 act shall meet the requirements for their level of
11 licensure by September 1, 2006 and shall be issued licenses."