

CHAPTER NO. 609

HOUSE BILL NO. 1537

By Representative Lois DeBerry

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1802

By Senator Dixon

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to neighborhood school program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, is amended by adding Sections 2-4 as a new appropriately designated part.

SECTION 2. Section 49-6-8101. No later than January 1, 2003, the department of education shall establish a pilot neighborhood school program for elementary school students in up to four (4) Tennessee elementary schools. The department shall select schools in counties having a population in excess of eight hundred thousand (800,000) according to the 2000 federal census or any subsequent federal census. Each school selected shall participate in the pilot program throughout the entire duration of the program. The purpose of the pilot program shall be to enable teachers to assess the learning and living environment of the student and to propose strategies to ensure the students exercise maximum learning potential in light of their personal needs. The program will enable teachers to measure the effectiveness of proposed strategies to address the needs of the students, and to encourage and assist in the expansion of effective programs.

SECTION 3. Section 49-6-8102. The pilot program shall require that at least twenty-five (25) percent of the full-time teachers in the participating schools live within a ten (10) mile radius of the school. The department, in conjunction with the state board of education, shall define and develop additional components of the pilot program in order to facilitate the purposes of the program. The pilot program shall continue in existence for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

SECTION 4. Section 49-6-8103. The department shall monitor and measure the effectiveness of the neighborhood school pilot program. The department shall submit an annual report of findings and recommendations, including an assessment of the effectiveness of such pilot neighborhood school program, to the house and senate education committees and to the state board of education.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 10, 2002



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 17th day of April 2002



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR