

1 HB214
2 205886-2
3 By Representatives Rich, Whorton, Ball, Pettus, Sorrell,
4 Wilcox, Kitchens, Ledbetter, Clouse, Greer, Lee, Whitt and
5 Faust
6 RFD: Education Policy
7 First Read: 11-FEB-20

1 (2) A teacher has the right to use appropriate means
2 of discipline up to and including corporal punishment as may
3 be prescribed by the local board of education, and, so long as
4 the teacher follows approved policy in the exercise of his or
5 her responsibility to maintain discipline in the classroom,
6 the teacher shall be immune from civil or criminal liability.

7 (3) A teacher should have the right to remove any
8 persistently disruptive student from his or her classroom when
9 the behavior of the student prevents the orderly instruction
10 of other students, or when the student displays defiant
11 behavior, so long as the teacher follows approved policy in
12 the exercise of his or her responsibility to maintain
13 discipline in the classroom, and to place the student in the
14 custody of the principal or his or her designee.

15 (4) A teacher has the right to have his or her
16 professional discretion and recommendations concerning
17 disciplinary actions respected by school and district
18 administrators in accordance with school and district policy.

19 (5) A teacher should have the right to teach in a
20 safe, secure, and orderly environment that is conducive to
21 learning and free from recognized dangers or hazards that are
22 causing or likely to cause serious injury.

23 (6) A teacher has the right to be treated with
24 civility and respect.

25 (7) A teacher has the right to communicate with and
26 to request the participation of parents in appropriate student
27 disciplinary decisions.

1 (8) A teacher has the right to complete only
2 paperwork that is not excessively burdensome and that, if
3 required by law, regulation, or policy, adheres to the law,
4 regulation, or policy and does not result in overly cumbersome
5 interpretations of that law, regulation, or policy.

6 (9) A beginning teacher has the right to receive
7 leadership and support, including the assignment of a
8 qualified, experienced mentor who commits to helping him or
9 her become a competent, confident professional in the
10 classroom and offers support and assistance as needed to meet
11 performance standards and professional expectations.

12 (b) The local board of education shall ensure
13 policies support teachers in advancing the purposes of this
14 section and of Title 16, Code of Alabama 1975.

15 (c) In recognition of the rights specified in
16 subdivision (8) of subsection (a), the Paperwork Reduction
17 Committee created by Section 16-6B-11, Code of Alabama 1975,
18 shall reconvene within 15 days after the effective date of
19 this act, shall fulfill the duties and responsibilities
20 provided by that section, and shall report any findings and
21 recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education not
22 later than December 1, 2020, for presentation to the
23 Legislative Council not later than the first day of the 2021
24 Regular Session.

25 (d) This section may not be construed as creating
26 any private cause of action or any other private legal
27 recourse or remedy.

1 (e) This section may not be construed to supersede
2 any other state law, federal law, federal regulation, State
3 Board of Education regulation or policy, or local board of
4 education policy.

5 (f) Each local board of education shall provide a
6 copy of this section to all teachers at the beginning of each
7 school year. Each local board of education shall also post a
8 copy of the rights provided in this section in a prominent
9 place in every school and administrative building operated by
10 the local board of education and provide a copy to parents or
11 legal guardians of all children attending those schools in a
12 form and manner approved by the local board of education. Each
13 local board of education and every school under its
14 jurisdiction that maintains an Internet website shall post a
15 copy of this section on that website.

16 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
17 first day of the third month following its passage and
18 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on Education Policy
..... 11-FEB-20

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar with 1 substitute
and..... 05-MAR-20

Read for the third time and passed
as amended..... 10-MAR-20

Yeas 80, Nays 17, Abstains 6

Jeff Woodard
Clerk