

SENATE BILL 774

By Beavers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to the validity of state-mandated
assessments.

WHEREAS, an informed citizenry improves morale and decision making processes; and

WHEREAS, informing citizens of the rationale and efforts to improve outcomes helps
improve morale which in turn improves validity; and

WHEREAS, student, parent, teacher, and principal morale is paramount to student
success; and

WHEREAS, in the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (2014) as
published by the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological
Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education, “validity” is defined as the
degree to which evidence and theory support the interpretation of evaluation scores as set forth;
and

WHEREAS, the five forms of evidence to support validity are: evidence based on test
content, evidence based on response processes, evidence based on internal structures,
evidence based on relations to other variables, and evidence based on the consequences of
testing; and

WHEREAS, assessment of methods and procedures for testing and performance
evaluations allows for information gathering for review and improvement of those methods and
procedures, as well as provides for an opportunity to inform citizens; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(d), is amended by adding
the following language as a new subdivision:

(8)

(A) As used in this subdivision(d)(8), “valid” or “validities” means the degree to which evidence and theory support the interpretation of evaluation scores as set forth in the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (2014) as published by the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education.

(B) The department of education shall provide a written report to be distributed at least one (1) time each year that details the evidence of validity in teacher evaluations, the areas needed for improvement, and efforts being made to improve the validity. The report shall be made available on the department’s website.

(C) The report described in subdivision (d)(8)(A) shall be distributed no later than February 1 of each year to the members of the education committee of the senate, the education administration and planning committee of the house of representatives, the education instruction and programs committee of the house of representatives, and the director of schools for each LEA.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.