

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5175

As of January 9, 2023

Title: An act relating to written contracts between school boards and principals.

Brief Description: Concerning written contracts between school boards and principals.

Sponsors: Senators Wellman and Mullet.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Early Learning & K-12 Education: 1/12/23.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows employment contracts between a school board and principal to be up to three years in length, as opposed to limited to a term of not more than one year.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION

Staff: Benjamin Omdal (786-7442)

Background: Certificated Educator Employee Contracts. Teachers, principals, superintendents, and other certificated employees of school districts and educational service districts are employed under written contracts that may be no more than one year in length. Contracts of certificated employees may be non-renewed when it is determined there is probable cause, including enrollment decline and revenue loss. Principals, directors, or other individuals employed in a supervisory or administrative position may be transferred to a subordinate administrative position, defined as any certificated position for which the annual compensation is less than that of the position currently held, in certain cases.

If the employing district determines the employment contract should not be renewed for the following year, the district must notify the employee in writing on or before May 15 preceding the beginning of the next school year. The employing school district has until

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

June 15 to provide the required notice of contract nonrenewal if the general operating budget has not passed the Legislature by the end of the legislative session.

Summary of Bill: A written contract between a school district board of directors and a principal shall be limited to a term of not more than three years, as opposed to limited to a term of not more than one year.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 6, 2023.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.