97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB0597

Introduced 01/31/11, by Rep. Michael J. Madigan

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a

Amends the School Code. Makes a technical change in a provision concerning promoting students to the next higher grade level.

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AN ACT concerning education.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
10-20.9a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a)

7 Sec. 10-20.9a. Final Grade; Promotion.

(a) Teachers shall administer the the approved marking 8 9 system or other approved means of evaluating pupil progress. 10 The teacher shall maintain the responsibility and right to determine grades and other evaluations of students within the 11 12 grading policies of the district based upon his or her professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any 13 14 given subject area or activity for which he or she is responsible. District policy shall provide the procedure and 15 reasons by and for which a grade may be changed; provided that 16 17 no grade or evaluation shall be changed without notification to the teacher concerning the nature and reasons for such change. 18 19 If such a change is made, the person making the change shall assume such responsibility for determining the grade or 20 21 evaluation, and shall initial such change.

(b) School districts shall not promote students to the nexthigher grade level based upon age or any other social reasons

not related to the academic performance of the students. On or 1 2 before September 1, 1998, school boards shall adopt and enforce 3 a policy on promotion as they deem necessary to ensure that students meet local goals and objectives and can perform at the 4 5 expected grade level prior to promotion. Decisions to promote or retain students in any classes shall be based on successful 6 7 completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance based on 8 Illinois Goals and Assessment Program tests, the Iowa Test of 9 Basic Skills, or other testing or any other criteria 10 established by the school board. Students determined by the 11 local district to not qualify for promotion to the next higher 12 grade shall be provided remedial assistance, which may include, but shall not be limited to, a summer bridge program of no less 13 14 than 90 hours, tutorial sessions, increased or concentrated 15 instructional time, modifications to instructional materials, 16 and retention in grade.

17 (Source: P.A. 89-610, eff. 8-6-96; 90-548, eff. 1-1-98.)

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