

# ACT 469

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 121

BY SENATOR SELDERS AND REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION, FISHER, JACKSON,  
KNOX, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MENA, TAYLOR AND  
WALTERS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 3

Note:

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## AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:416.24 and 3996(B)(89), relative to mental health screenings in schools; to authorize public schools to offer annual mental health screenings for students; to require notification of parents; to provide for parental consent; to provide for duties of the Louisiana Department of Health; to provide for confidentiality; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:416.24 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

### §416.24. Mental health screenings

A. Each city, parish, or other local public school board may offer mental health screenings for all students in grades kindergarten through twelve during the first semester of the school year. If a board offers such screenings, each school under its jurisdiction shall comply with the provisions of this Section relative to the administration of such screenings.

B. The school shall notify the parent or legal guardian of each student that screenings are being offered and shall give the parent or legal guardian the option to consent in writing to the screening. A school shall not conduct a mental health screening on a student whose parent or legal guardian has not consented to the screening, unless the student has reached the age of majority

1 or is an emancipated minor and independently consents in writing to the  
2 screening. The school shall identify the screening tool being used and include  
3 this information on the parental consent form with information on how to  
4 access the tool on the school or district's website.

5 C. If the results of a student's screening indicate a potential mental  
6 health condition, the school shall notify the student's parent, legal guardian, or  
7 the student if he has reached the age of majority or is an emancipated minor of  
8 the results and provide a list of resources available to the student in the school  
9 or community.

10 D. The Louisiana Department of Health shall select mental health  
11 screening tools appropriate to the provisions of this Section and provide such  
12 tools at no cost to each city, parish, and other local public school board.

13 E. Results of the screenings shall be confidential and shall not be subject  
14 to disclosure except to the student's parent, legal guardian, or the student if he  
15 has reached the age of majority or is an emancipated minor. Within thirty days  
16 following notification of the parent, legal guardian, or the student if he has  
17 reached the age of majority or is an emancipated minor, the mental health  
18 screening data collected by a school shall be destroyed. No school or vendor  
19 shall collect metadata when conducting such screenings.

20 F. No city, parish, or other local public school board shall use the results  
21 of any mental health screening to make any decision relating to student  
22 instruction, academic opportunities, or discipline.

23 G. There shall be no cause of action against the public school governing  
24 authority, or any employee thereof, related to the results of the screening  
25 provided for in this Section.

26 H. The provisions of this Section are subject to the approval and funding  
27 by the school board of a city, parish, or other local public school system.

28 Section 2. R.S. 17:3996(B)(89) is hereby enacted to read as follows:


29 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

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B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

(90) \* \* \*  
(89) Mental health screenings, R.S. 17:416.24.

\* \* \*  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

# ACT 42

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 160

BY SENATOR CATHEY

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ENROLLED

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:166.1, relative to transportation means of students in public schools; to provide for transportation network companies to transport students to and from school; to provide for certain requirements for transporting students; to provide for documentation of trips; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:166.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§166.1. School transportation of students; alternative means of transportation**

**A. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, a city, parish, or other local public school board may contract with a transportation network company to transport students under the age of eighteen to or from a school or school-related or sanctioned activity when the transportation network company is in compliance with this Section and meets the following requirements:**

**(1) The driver is at least twenty-one years of age and possesses a valid Louisiana driver's license for a minimum of three years.**

**(2) The driver has undergone a background check process which includes:**

**(a) A national and state fingerprint-based criminal background check through the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information in the office of state police pursuant to R.S. 15:587.1 and R.S. 17:15(A)(1)(c).**

**(b) A clear Louisiana child abuse and neglect screen.**

**(3) The company shall provide child safety education to the driver, to include:**

**(a) Safe driving practices.**

**(b) First aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).**

**(c) Special considerations for transporting youth with disabilities.**

**(d) Safe pick-up and drop-off procedures.**

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(e) Laws on proper child restraint systems.

(4) The company shall implement a technology-enabled solution that:

(a) Provides end-to-end viability of the ride and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking of the ride in real-time for the company, the passenger's legal guardian, and, if different from the legal guardian, the person or entity who scheduled the ride.

(b) Monitors the ride in real-time for safety-related anomalies.

(c) Provides the passenger's legal guardian with the ability to contact the driver and the company directly.

(5) The company shall implement ride-tracking technology that allows for the detection of the following driving behaviors:

(a) Device use.

(b) Speeding.

(c) Hard turning.

(d) Hard braking.

(e) Hard acceleration.

(f) Collision detection.

(6) The company shall ensure that vehicles used to provide these services are:

(a) Vehicles originally designed for not more than eight passengers, including the driver.

(b) No more than thirteen years old.

(c) Inspected annually by a mechanic.

(7) A driver shall complete and document a daily pre-trip inspection before providing a ride pursuant to a contract under this Section. The driver, on the pre-trip inspection, shall:

(a) List any defects or deficiencies which would affect the safety of operation of the vehicle,

(b) If no defects or deficiencies are discovered by or reported to the driver, the documented inspection shall so indicate.

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(8) Prior to performing services provided under this Section, any noted defects or deficiencies listed in the annual or documented pre-trip vehicle inspection shall be repaired or corrected.


(9) The company shall maintain commercial automotive insurance that does not contain an exclusion for the transportation of an unaccompanied minor.

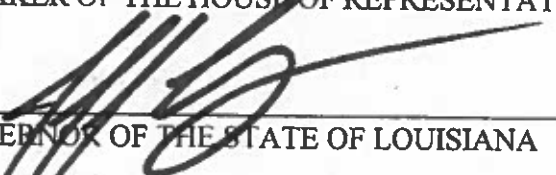
(10) The company shall publish an annual safety report on its website.

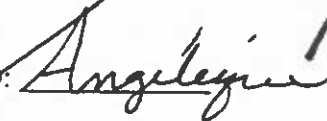
B. Any rules promulgated by the department consistent with this Section, and the contract between the transportation network company and a city, parish, or other local public school board, shall exclusively govern the services arranged by the company under this Section.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 4, 2025

# ACT 504

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 486

BY REPRESENTATIVES FISHER, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BOYD, BRASS, BRYANT, CHASSION, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, GREEN, HUGHES, JACKSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, MANDIE LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MENA, MILLER, MOORE, NEWELL, PHELPS, SPELL, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, WALTERS, WILLARD, AND YOUNG AND SENATOR BARROW

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. ~~17:173.1~~, relative to mental health services for students; to require public schools to offer a mental health assessment to certain students at the beginning of each school year; to provide for reporting; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:173.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§173.1. Mental health assessments

A. Each public school shall make available to each student in grades three through twelve a mental health assessment by a licensed behavioral health provider, so long as it is annually authorized by his parent or legal guardian. Such screening shall be offered within the year, and, if feasible, during the first semester rather than the second semester of the school year. Each public school principal or his designee may use discretion in determining a convenient time for scheduling such assessments and an appropriate time and place to conduct such assessments.

B. For the purposes of this Section, "licensed behavioral health provider" means an individual or provider that falls into one of the following categories:

(1) A mental health professional with a current and valid occupational license issued by a Louisiana professional occupational licensing board or commission under Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, acting within

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the scope of practice authorized by the licensing board to conduct mental health assessments.

(2) A behavioral health services provider with a current and valid license issued by the Louisiana Department of Health pursuant to R.S. 40:2151 et seq. to provide mental health services and assessments.

C. Public schools may locate a current list of licensed mental health professionals who are authorized to conduct mental health assessments by contacting the individual licensing boards who regulate the licensed professionals. Public schools may locate a current list of behavioral health service providers licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health through the Louisiana Department of Health's website.

D. The assessments provided for in this Section shall be provided to the appropriate students at each public school at no cost to each city, parish, or other local public school board.

E. Each public school shall annually report at the end of each school year the number of screenings administered to students, by grade level, under its jurisdiction to the state Department of Education.

*Phil R. Foster*  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*J. C. A. H. D.*  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

# ACT 268

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 372

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

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- NOTE §§ 2-4

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## AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:5025.7~~(introductory paragraph) and 5026(F)(introductory paragraph) and to repeal Section 6(A) and (D) of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to curricula; to provide relative to Computer Science as a required high school course; to provide for alignment with the core curriculum requirements for qualifications for TOPS awards; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

NOTE @ RS 17:193.3 & 280.3

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5025.7(introductory paragraph) and 5026(F)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5025.7. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, and Honors Awards; students graduating ~~in the 2027-2028 school year~~ through 2029-2030 school years

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student who graduated during or after the 2027-2028 school year but not later than the 2029-2030 school year shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

\* \* \*

§5026. High school core curriculum requirements; TOPS-Tech

\* \* \*

1 F. For a student graduating during or after the 2027-2028 school year but  
2 prior to the 2030-2031 school year to be eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant  
3 to this Chapter, the student shall have successfully completed the core curriculum  
4 requirements of R.S. 17:5025 or the core curriculum defined as follows:

5 \* \* \*

6 Section 2. Section 6.(A) and (D) of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the  
7 Legislature of Louisiana are hereby repealed in their entirety.

8 Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b), (c), and (f) as amended by  
9 Section 2 of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana shall  
10 apply as follows:

11 (A) R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) and (c), relative to the authorization that computer  
12 science may count as math and science credits for a high school career major, shall apply to  
13 students who enter the ninth grade during the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter.

14 (B) R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(f), relative to the requirement that one of the nine Jump  
15 Start courses required for a high school career major be computer science unless computer  
16 science is taken to fulfill a math or science credit, shall apply to students who enter the ninth  
17 grade during the 2027-2028 school year and thereafter.

18 Section 4. The provisions of R.S. 17:280.3(A), as enacted by Section 4 of Act No.  
19 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, shall be implemented as  
20 follows:

21 (A) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(1), relative to the requirement that each public high school  
22 provide computer science instruction to its students, shall initially be implemented beginning  
23 with the 2026-2027 school year.

24 (B) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(1), relative to the requirement that each public high school  
25 student successfully complete a one-credit computer science course to qualify for high  
26 school graduation, shall apply to students who enter the ninth grade during the 2027-2028  
27 school year and thereafter.

28 (C) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(2) shall initially be implemented beginning with the 2026-  
29 2027 school year.

(NOTE: R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b),(c),  
(f) & 280.3(A)]  
(NOTE: R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b),  
(c), & (f)]  
(NOTE: R.S. 17:280.3(A)]

HB NO. 372

ENROLLED

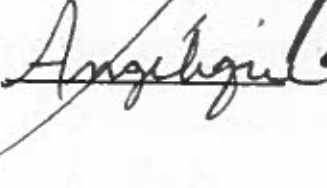
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(D) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(3) shall initially be implemented beginning with the 2027-2028 school year.

  
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 11, 2025

ACT 477  
2025 Regular Session  
Edit Sheet

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Classification RS 9

- NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 8-11, 37

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Classification RS 1

- NOTE § 19

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Note: - NOTE § 19

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Edits To: RS 15 Pgs. 17

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Classification RS 40

- NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 25-27, 37

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Edits To: RS 47 Pgs. 36

Note: - NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 34-37

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Classification RS 6

- NOTE § 19

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Classification RS 11

- NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 11, 37

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Note: - NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 7-8, 37

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Classification CHC

- NOTE § 19

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Classification RS 23

- NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 18, 37

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Note: - NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 27-37

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Classification RS 44

- NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 27, 37

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 18

Note: - NOTE § 19

- COPY PGS. 1-2, 17-18, 37

# ACT 477

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 617

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARVER, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAMBURG, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYER, BRAUD, BRYANT, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, CREWS, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, FISHER, FREIBERG, GLORIOSO, HEBERT, HENRY, HILFERTY, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, KERNER, LACOMBE, MACK, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MOORE, NEWELL, OWEN, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, WALTERS, WILDER, WRIGHT, AND WYBLE AND SENATORS BASS, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, HENRY, MCMATH, MILLER, MIZELL, MYERS, REESE, SELDERS, AND WHEAT

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Edits To: ALL Pgs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Note: SEE ATTACHED EDIT SHEET

AN ACT

To amend and reenact ~~Children's Code~~ Articles 509(B)(1), 512(B)(1), 522(A)(2), 1269.3(F), 1270(B), (E), and (F), 1271(A), 1273, 1283.2(H), 1285.2(H), and 1519, ~~Code of Evidence~~ Article 902(10), R.S. 6:333(F)(14), R.S. 9:315.16(A), 315.40(1) and (3), 399.1(A) and (F)(3) and (4), and 406(B)(2) and (C)(2), R.S. 11:441.1(F), R.S. 13:998 (B) and (E)(1) <sup>(Intro. Par.)</sup> and (3), 1141(B) and (E)(1) <sup>(Intro. Par.)</sup> and (3), 1414(B) and (E)(1) <sup>(Intro. Par.)</sup> and (3), 4291(B)(1), and 5108.2, R.S. 15:587(A)(2)(a) and (b), 587.1(I), and 587.5(A)(4), R.S. 17:192.1(A)(1)(a) and (3), R.S. 23:1605(A)(4), R.S. 36:3(7), 8(E)(2)(d), 9(C), 471(B) and (C)(1), 472(A), 475.1(B) and (C), 476, and 477, R.S. 40:34.5(E), 46.12(D) and (F), <sup>(Intro. Par.)</sup> and 1061.14(B)(3)(b)(i), R.S. 43:111(A)(8), R.S. 44:38, R.S. 46:51(introductory paragraph), 51.3, 233.1(C)(introductory paragraph) and (D)(introductory paragraph), 236.1.1(3), 236.1.4(E), 236.1.8(D), 236.3(A)(2), 236.10(A), 236.11(C), 236.12(B)(1), 236.14(D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 236.15(A)(1), 236.16, 238(B), (C), (D), (E)(introductory paragraph) and (7), and (F), 281, 1002(A), (B)(introductory paragraph), and (C), and 2136.2(F), R.S. 47:299.11(1), 299.41(B), 463.112(C), and 9027(C)(10)(introductory paragraph) and (c), and R.S. 51:1442(4) and to repeal R.S. 36:474(A)(11) and (G) and 477(B)(2) and

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R.S. 46:51(2) and (14) and 233.1(A) and (B), relative to the organization of the Department of Children and Family Services; to create the office of child support and the office of child welfare; to eliminate the office of children and family services; to transfer the duties of certain offices within the Department of Children and Family Services; to remove outdated provisions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Children's Code Articles 509(B)(1), 512(B)(1), 522(A)(2), 1269.3(F), 1270(B), (E), and (F), 1271(A), 1273, 1283.2(H), 1285.2(H), and 1519 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 509. Development of interagency protocols; drafting committee membership; meetings; compliance deadline

\* \* \*

B. At a minimum, each committee shall include the following members:

(1) A representative of the office of ~~children and family services~~, child welfare. Department of Children and Family Services.

\* \* \*

Art. 512. Composition of the multidisciplinary investigative team

\* \* \*

B. Governmental entities that have responsibilities imposed by law for the investigation of child abuse include:

(1) The office of ~~children and family services~~, child welfare. Department of Children and Family Services.

\* \* \*

Art. 522. Applicability

A. A child advocacy center is established and becomes subject to the provisions of this Chapter when all of the following have been accomplished:

\* \* \*

(2) An agreement to use the services of a child advocacy center has been executed by representatives of the district attorney, the office of ~~children and family~~

1 directly or indirectly, by institutions or facilities providing, or with the potential of  
2 providing, daily care or supervision to any child or youth in the custody of or under  
3 the supervision of any Louisiana state government agency. The department shall  
4 maintain the confidentiality of criminal history information received in accordance  
5 with applicable federal or state law.

6 \* \* \*

7 §587.1. Provision of information to protect children

8 \* \* \*

9 I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
10 Department of Children and Family Services ~~Services, office of children and family~~  
11 ~~services~~, may utilize the National Crime Information Center to conduct background  
12 checks authorized in R.S. 15:587 when investigating or responding to reports of  
13 abuse or neglect as provided for in Section 151 of ~~Public Law~~ <sup>P.L.</sup> 109-248.

14 \* \* \*

15 §587.5. Agencies with access to federal tax information; criminal history  
16 information

17 A. For purposes of this Section, "agency" means any agency that has an  
18 agreement with the Internal Revenue Service to access federal tax information or is  
19 authorized by law to audit the records of an agency that has access to federal tax  
20 information. "Agency" shall include all of the following:

21 \* \* \*

22 (4) Department of Children and Family Services, ~~child support enforcement~~  
23 ~~and family support~~ Services, office of child support.

24 \* \* \*

25 Section 8. R.S. 17:192.1(A)(1)(a) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
26 as follows:

27 §192.1. Meals; denial to students; procedures

28 A. If the governing authority of a public elementary school, for any reason,  
29 adopts a policy of denying a scheduled meal to a child who is an elementary school

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student, it shall implement the following procedures to provide for safeguards to the child's health and the child's ability to learn:

(1) Prior to withholding a meal from the child, the school shall do each of the following:

(a) Provide actual notification to the child's parent or legal guardian as to the date and time after which meals may be denied, the reason for such denial, any action that may be taken by the parent or legal guardian to prevent further denial of meals, and the consequences of the failure to take appropriate actions to prevent such denial, including that the school governing authority shall contact the office of ~~children and family services~~ child welfare, ~~within the~~ Department of Children and Family Services upon the third instance of such denial during a single school year as provided in Paragraph (3) of this Subsection.

\* \* \*

(3) Upon the third instance during a single school year of the same elementary school child being denied a meal during school hours, the school governing authority shall contact the office of ~~children and family services~~ child welfare, ~~within the~~ Department of Children and Family Services to report the failure of the parent or guardian to pay for meals which has resulted in repeated denials of meals during school hours.

Section 9. R.S. 23:1605(A)(4) is hereby ~~amended~~ and reenacted to read as follows:

§1605. Unemployment insurance integrity program

A. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them:

\* \* \*

(4) "New hire records" means the directory of newly hired and re-hired employees reported under state and federal law and managed by the ~~child support enforcement section, division of family support, office of children and family services,~~ office of child support, Department of Children and Family Services.

\* \* \*

HB NO. 617

**ENROLLED**

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Section 19. This Act shall become effective only if the Act which originated as House Bill No. 624 of this 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature is enacted. If House Bill No. 624 is enacted then:

(A) Sections 1 through 9 and 11 through 18 of this Act shall become effective on October 1, 2027.

(B) Section 10 of this Act shall become effective on October 1, 2025.

[NOTE @ ALL PROVISIONS IN THIS ACT]

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 20, 2025

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

**ACT 463**  
**2025 Regular Session**  
**Edit Sheet**

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Edits To: RS 40 Pgs. 6

Note: - NOTE § 4

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Edits To: RS 37 Pgs. 3

Note: - NOTE §§ 4 & 5(c)

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**NO EDITS**

Classification RS 17

- NOTE §§ 4 & 5(B)

# ACT 463

La. State Law Institute  
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2025 Regular Session

Edits To: All

Pgs. \_\_\_\_\_

Note: - SEE ATTACHED EDIT SHEET

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 14

BY SENATORS MCMATH, BOUDREAUX, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, HENRY, HENSGENS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, MIGUEZ, MIZELL, MYERS, REESE, SELDERS, STINE AND TALBOT AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BEAULLIEU, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BUTLER, CARRIER, CARVER, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, CREWS, DEVILLIER, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, ECHOLS, EDMONSTON, EGAN, EMERSON, FIRMENT, FISHER, GALLE, HILFERTY, HORTON, ILLG, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, KERNER, MCMAHEN, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MENA, OWEN, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, STAGNI, THOMPSON, VENTRELLA, VILLIO, WILDER AND WYBLE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

## AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1270(A)(8) and to enact R.S. 17:197.2, R.S. 37:920(G), and Part I-B of Chapter 4 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:661 and 662, relative to nutrition; to provide for serving certain foods in schools; to provide for continuing education for certain healthcare providers; to provide for disclosure of certain ingredients by manufacturers; to provide for disclosure of seed oil use by food establishments; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:197.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

### §197.2. Prohibited ingredients; local production preference

A.(1) No public school governing authority shall serve any food or beverage containing a prohibited ingredient to students in schools under its jurisdiction.

(2) No nonpublic school that receives state funds shall serve any food or beverage containing a prohibited ingredient to students.

(3) The provisions of this Subsection shall apply to breakfasts and lunches served to a student on a school campus during regular school hours and to any food or beverages served by the school to a student during aftercare.

(4) The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any food or beverage sold in concession stands or vending machines.

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**B. For purposes of this Section, "prohibited ingredient" means any of the following:**

**(1) Blue dye 1 (CAS 3844-45-9).**

**(2) Blue dye 2 (CAS 860-22-0).**

**(3) Green dye 3 (CAS 2353-45-9).**

**(4) Red dye 3 (CAS 16423-68-0).**

**(5) Red dye 40 (CAS 25956-17-6).**

**(6) Yellow dye 5 (CAS 1934-21-0).**

**(7) Yellow dye 6 (CAS 2783-94-0).**

**(8) Azodicarbonamide.**

**(9) Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA).**

**(10) Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT).**

**(11) Potassium bromate.**

**(12) Propylparaben.**

**(13) Acesulfame potassium.**

**(14) Aspartame.**

**(15) Sucralose.**

**C. Each public school and any nonpublic school that receives state funds shall purchase food produced in this state to the extent practicable.**

Section 2. R.S. 37:1270(A)(8) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:920(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§920. Licensure; qualifications; examination; renewal; temporary permits

\* \* \*

**G. The board shall require advanced practice registered nurses practicing family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, or gynecology to complete a minimum of one hour of continuing education on nutrition and metabolic health every four years. The board shall adopt rules to determine the content of the continuing education provided for in this Subsection.**

\* \* \*

§1270. Duties and powers of the board

A. The board shall:

\* \* \*

(8) <sup>(a)</sup> Have the authority to establish and determine by rule minimum requirements relative to continuing education for the renewal or reinstatement of any license or permit issued by the board, ~~except that the~~

~~(b)~~ <sup>(a)</sup> The board shall require physicians and physician assistants practicing emergency medicine to complete an initial one-hour continuing education course on the treatment of sickle cell disease. Thereafter, a physician and physician assistant practicing emergency medicine shall complete a one-hour refresher course at regular intervals no less frequently than every three years. The course shall be approved by the board and made available on the board's website.

~~(c)~~ <sup>(b)</sup> The board shall require physicians and physician assistants practicing family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, endocrinology, gastroenterology, cardiology, oncology, rheumatology, neurology, nephrology, dermatology, pulmonology, surgery, immunology, hematology, obstetrics, and gynecology to complete a minimum of one hour of continuing education on nutrition and metabolic health every four years. The board shall adopt rules to determine the content of the continuing education provided for in this Subparagraph.

\* \* \*

Section 3. Part I-B of Chapter 4 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 40:661 and 662, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**PART I-B. DISCLOSURE OF HARMFUL INGREDIENTS**

**§661. Food containing artificial colors, additives, or banned chemicals; ingredient information**

**A. Any food product offered for sale in this state shall be labeled by the manufacturer in accordance with the provisions of this Section if the product contains any ingredient identified in this Subsection:**

**(1) Acesulfame potassium.**

- 1                    (2) Acetylated esters of mono- and diglycerides (acetic acid ester).
- 2                    (3) Anisole.
- 3                    (4) Aspartame.
- 4                    (5) Azodicarbonamide (ADA).
- 5                    (6) Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA).
- 6                    (7) Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT).
- 7                    (8) Bleached flour.
- 8                    (9) Blue dye 1 (CAS 3844-45-9).
- 9                    (10) Blue dye 2 (CAS 860-22-0).
- 10                   (11) Bromated flour.
- 11                   (12) Calcium bromate.
- 12                   (13) Canthaxanthin.
- 13                   (14) Certified food colors by the United States Food and Drug  
14                   Administration.
- 15                   (15) Citrus red dye 2 (CAS 6358-53-8).
- 16                   (16) Diacetyl.
- 17                   (17) Dimethylamylamine (DMAA).
- 18                   (18) Dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate (DSS).
- 19                   (19) Green dye 3 (CAS 2353-45-9).
- 20                   (20) Interesterified palm oil.
- 21                   (21) Interesterified soybean oil.
- 22                   (22) Lactylated fatty acid esters of glycerol and propylene glycol.
- 23                   (23) Lye.
- 24                   (24) Morpholine.
- 25                   (25) Olestra.
- 26                   (26) Partially hydrogenated oil (PHO).
- 27                   (27) Potassium aluminum sulfate.
- 28                   (28) Potassium bromate.
- 29                   (29) Potassium iodate.
- 30                   (30) Propylene oxide.

1           (31) Propylparaben.

2           (32) Red dye 3 (CAS 16423-68-0).

3           (33) Red dye 4 (CAS 4548-53-2).

4           (34) Red dye 40 (CAS 25956-17-6).

5           (35) Sodium aluminum sulfate.

6           (36) Sodium lauryl sulfate.

7           (37) Sodium stearyl fumarate.

8           (38) Stearyl tartrate.

9           (39) Sucralose.

10          (40) Synthetic trans fatty acid.

11          (41) Thiodipropionic acid.

12          (42) Toluene.

13          (43) Yellow dye 5 (CAS 1934-21-0).

14          (44) Yellow dye 6 (CAS 2783-94-0).

15           B.(1) The product label shall include a quick response code, or QR code,  
16           with a statement adjacent to the code that informs the consumer that additional  
17           ingredient information can be accessed by scanning the code.

18           (2) The QR code shall link to a web page that is under the control of the  
19           manufacturer.

20           (3) The web page shall contain the following disclaimer in a prominent  
21           location: "NOTICE: This product contains [insert ingredient here]. For more  
22           information about this ingredient, including FDA approvals, click HERE."

23           (4) The disclaimer shall link to the United States Food and Drug  
24           Administration's web page regarding food chemical safety.

25           C.(1) The provisions of this Section shall only apply to food or beverages  
26           intended for human consumption.

27           (2) The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any of the following:

28           (a) A drug or dietary supplement regulated by the United States Food  
29           and Drug Administration under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21  
30           U.S.C. 321 et seq., 21 CFR 3.2(e), or the Dietary Supplement Health and

Education Act.

(b) An alcoholic beverage as defined in R.S. 26:2 and 241.

(c) Food prepared and labeled in a retail food establishment.

(d) Medical food as defined in 21 U.S.C. 360ee(b)(3).

(3) If a product is sold at retail as a multiunit package, the provisions of this Section shall only apply to the outer container.

D. Any violation of this Section shall be a violation of the state Sanitary Code.

§662. Seed oil; notice to patrons of food service establishments required

A. Any food service establishment, as defined in R.S. 40:5.5, that cooks or prepares food using seed oil shall display a disclaimer on the menu or other clearly visible location that informs customers of the potential presence of seed oil in food served at the establishment. The disclaimer shall state: "Some menu items may contain or be prepared using seed oils."

B. For purposes of this Section, "seed oil" shall mean any of the following:

(1) Canola or rapeseed oil.

(2) Corn oil.

(3) Cottonseed oil.

(4) Grapeseed oil.

(5) Rice bran oil.

(6) Safflower oil.

(7) Soybean oil.

(8) Sunflower oil.

C. Any violation of this Section shall be a violation of the state Sanitary Code.

Section 4. The provisions of this Act that fall under the regulatory authority of the federal government shall remain in effect in this state until such time as a federal statute, federal regulation, or guidance from a federal government agency is enacted or issued that is at least equivalent to or is more restrictive than the requirements of this Act.

[Acts 2025, No. 463]

[NOTE: ALL PROVISIONS IN THIS ACT]

1 Section 5.(A) This Section and Section 4 of this Act shall become effective upon  
2 signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for  
3 bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section  
4 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved  
5 by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

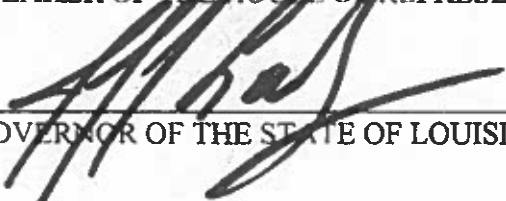
6 (B) Section 1 of this Act shall become effective beginning with the 2028-2029 school  
7 year.


8 (C) Section 2 of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2026. The minimum  
9 of one hour of continuing education required by Section 2 of this Act shall be included in,  
10 and not in addition to, the total number of continuing education hours required by the board  
11 at the time of passage of this Act.

12 (D) Section 3 of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2028.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025

[NOTE ALL PROVISIONS (NOTE & RS 17:197.2) IN § 2]

**ACT 137**  
**2025 Regular Session**  
**Edit Sheet**

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Note:

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**NO EDITS**  
Classification RS 47

# ACT 137

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX AND CHASSION

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Edits To: ALL Pgs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Note: SEE ATTACHED EDIT SHEET

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## AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~13:5364(1)~~, R.S. ~~14:34(C)~~, 34.1(B), and 34.7(B), R.S. ~~15:1199.23(2)~~, R.S. ~~17:269~~ and 1915(Article II)(R), R.S. ~~37:3651(N)~~ and 3662(2), R.S. ~~46:121(1)(a)~~ and (4)(introductory paragraph), and R.S. ~~47:463.195(C)~~, relative to definitions of the United States Armed Forces; to provide for the inclusion of the United States Space Force in various statutory definitions of United States Armed Forces; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. ~~13:5364(1)~~ is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

### §5364. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter:

(1) "Veteran" means a former or current member of the United States Armed Forces or organized militia of the several states and territories, including but not limited to a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, Air National Guard, Reserves, State Guard, or a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor, the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

\* \* \*

Section 2. R.S. ~~14:34(C)~~, 34.1(B), and ~~34.7(B)~~ are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

### §34. Aggravated battery

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C. For purposes of this Section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Active member of the United States Armed Forces" shall mean an active member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard.

(2) "Disabled veteran" shall mean a veteran member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard who is disabled as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

§34.1. Second degree battery

\* \* \*

B. For purposes of this Section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Active member of the United States Armed Forces" shall mean an active member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard.

(2) "Disabled veteran" shall mean a veteran member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard who is disabled as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

\* \* \*

§34.7. Aggravated second degree battery

\* \* \*

B. For purposes of this Section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

**CODING:** Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

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(1) "Active member of the United States Armed Forces" shall mean an active member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard.

(2) "Disabled veteran" shall mean a veteran member of the United States Army, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force, the United States Coast Guard, or the National Guard who is disabled as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

\* \* \*

Section 3. R.S. 15:1199.23(2) is hereby ~~amended and reenacted~~ to read as follows:

§1199.23. Definitions

For the purposes of this Part: ✓

\* \* \*

(2) "Veteran" means an honorably or generally discharged member of the United States Armed Forces or organized militia of the several states and territories, including but not limited to a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, Air National Guard, Reserves, State Guard, or a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor, the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Section 4. R.S. 17:269 and 1915(Article II)(R) are hereby ~~amended and reenacted~~ to read as follows:

§269. Selective service obligation orientation program

A. The state board of education may establish and administer, and each parish and city school board in the state may maintain in each public school to which applicable a selective service obligation orientation program of instruction which may be part of the required curriculum for all male students in grades higher than the eighth grade in the public schools of this state.

1 B. The program so established may require that every male student in the ninth,  
2 tenth and eleventh grades be given one hour of non credit instruction during each  
3 semester of each of such grades, by representatives of the Louisiana Selective  
4 Service System, in subject matter pertaining to armed forces obligations.

5 C. During the second semester of the twelfth grade every male student may be  
6 given six hours of instruction, without credit, in matters pertaining to his armed  
7 forces obligations, including but not necessarily restricted to matters relating to  
8 service in the regular armed forces, the reserves and officer procurement. Such  
9 instruction may include one hour of lecture by representatives of each of the  
10 following: (1) <sup>P T</sup> the Louisiana Selective Service System, (2) <sup>P T</sup> the ~~Air Forces of the~~  
11 United States Air Force, (3) <sup>P T</sup> the United States Space Force, (4) <sup>P T</sup> the United States  
12 Army, (4) <sup>P T</sup> (5) <sup>P T</sup> the United States Navy, (5) <sup>P T</sup> (6) <sup>P T</sup> the United States Marine Corps, and  
13 (6) <sup>P T</sup> (7) <sup>P T</sup> the United States Coast Guard.

14 \* \* \*

15 §1915. Ratification; text of compact

16 \* \* \*

17 ARTICLE II

18 DEFINITIONS

19 As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different  
20 construction:

21 \* \* \*

22 R. "Uniformed service" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force,  
23 Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National  
24 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services.

25 \* \* \*

26 Section 5. R.S. 37:3651(N) and 3662(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
27 as follows:

28 §3651. Licensure for individuals with military training and experience; licensure by  
29 endorsement for military spouses and dependents

30 \* \* \*

1 N. For the purposes of this Section, "military" means the armed forces or  
2 reserves of the United States, including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast  
3 Guard, Air Force, Space Force, and the reserve components thereof, the National  
4 Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state, or the naval militia of any  
5 state.

6 \* \* \*

7 §3662. Definitions

8 As used in this Chapter, the following words have the following meanings  
9 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

10 \* \* \*

11 (2) "Military medical personnel" means an individual who has recently  
12 served as a medic in the United States Army, medical technician in the United States  
13 Air Force or United States Space Force, or corpsman in the United States Navy or  
14 the United States Coast Guard and who was discharged or released from such service  
15 under conditions other than dishonorable.

16 \* \* \*

17 Section 6. R.S. 46:121(1)(a) and (4)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended  
18 and reenacted to read as follows.

19 §121. Definitions

20 For purposes of this Part, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

21 (1) "Activated military person" means a person domiciled in Louisiana for  
22 civilian purposes who names Louisiana as Home of Record (HOR) for military  
23 purposes, and who is any of the following:

24 (a) A member of a reserve component of the United States Army, Navy, Air  
25 Force, Space Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, including the Louisiana National  
26 Guard, and called to active federal service in excess of thirty days.

27 \* \* \*

28 (4) "Honorably discharged military person" means a person domiciled in  
29 Louisiana who is a veteran of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force,  
30 Marine Corps, or Coast Guard who was on full-time active duty in the military

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service of the United States and received an honorable discharge and has met any of the following conditions:

\* \* \*

Section 7. ~~R.S. 47:463.195(C) is hereby amended~~ and reenacted to read as follows:

§463.195. Special prestige license plate; "Blue Star Mothers"

\* \* \*

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate, to a Louisiana resident who submits written evidence that the applicant is the owner of a motor vehicle and is the spouse, sibling, parent, or child of a person serving or who has served in the armed forces of the United States. As used in this Subsection, "armed forces of the United States" means persons serving or who have served in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, reservists, and members of the National Guard. The plate issued under this Section shall not be transferable between motor vehicle owners. In the event the owner of a motor vehicle issued a "Blue Star Mothers" plate should sell, trade, exchange, or otherwise dispose of such vehicle, the plate shall be retained by original applicant to whom the plate was issued.

\* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

# ACT 48

La. State Law Institute

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NO EDITS

Classification RS 17

- NOTE § 2

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 52

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILLARD, KNOX, AND MANDIE LANDRY

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:270(B)(2)(n), relative to curricula; to add an instructional requirement in the high school financial literacy course; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:270(B)(2)(n) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§270. Financial literacy; required instruction

\* \* \*

B.

\* \* \*

(2) The topics covered by the course shall include but need not be limited to the following:

\* \* \*

(n) Scholarships, grants, and other financial opportunities to pay for postsecondary education.

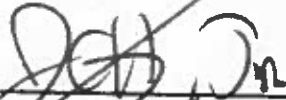
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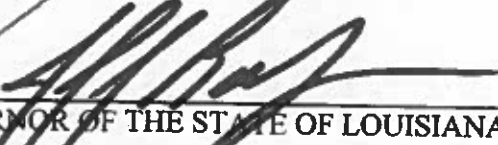
Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be initially implemented in the 2025-2026 school year.

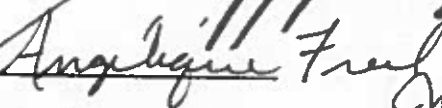
[Acts 2025, No. 48]

(NOTE: RS 17:270(B)(2)(n))

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 4, 2025

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

# ACT 103

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 81

BY SENATOR EDMONDS AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BERAULT, CARLSON, CARRIER, CARVER, CHASSION, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, KNOX, OWEN, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, WILDER AND WYBLE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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Classification RS17

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:355(C) and (D)(1), relative to elementary and secondary education; to provide for transparency and parental access to school-related instructional materials in public schools; to provide parental in-person access to certain printed instructional materials free-of-charge; to provide parental access to certain online instructional materials free-of-charge; to allow local school boards to develop policies for in-person viewing of certain academic tests or assessments; to require each local school board to submit certain rules and policies to the state Department of Education with respect to parental access to instructional materials; to provide for reports to the legislature; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:355(C) and (D)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§355. Parental access to instructional materials

\* \* \*

C.(1) Each local school board shall adopt rules and policies for each school to make instructional materials readily available for review as provided in this Section. The rules ~~may~~ shall specify reasonable hours for in-person review. The rules shall ~~provide~~ require that the school ~~shall~~ provide access to instructional materials, including online access, to a parent upon request.

(2)(a) If a parent requests a paper copy of material that can be readily copied using school equipment, such copy shall be provided. The rules shall establish

1 reasonable and customary fees to be collected by the school to cover the cost of  
2 providing such copies.

3 (b) No fee shall be charged to a parent for in-person viewing of their  
4 child's instructional materials if the parent does not request that copies are  
5 made of those materials.

6 (c) No fee shall be imposed when a parent accesses instructional  
7 materials online.

8 (d) No other provision of law or school board policy shall prohibit or  
9 interfere with a parent's ability to make his own copies on school premises via  
10 mobile or other device that has the capability of making copies. The principal of  
11 each school shall ensure that the school complies with such rules.

12 (3) Assessments of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, including  
13 nonsecure tests, assessments, and assessment answer keys, may be made  
14 available to parents at the discretion of the local school board and may include  
15 only in-person viewing at the school.

16 (4) The requirement to provide online access to instructional materials  
17 shall be limited to curricula that is adopted in accordance with R.S. 17:351.1.  
18 Other instructional materials may be made available to a parent in-person in  
19 accordance with local rules and policies adopted by the local school board.

20 (5)(a) Each local school board shall submit an electronic copy or a digital  
21 link to rules and policies, that are adopted pursuant to this Section, to the state  
22 Department of Education. The submission shall include the reasonable and  
23 customary fee schedule which may be charged to the parent pursuant to this  
24 Section.

25 (b) The department shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on  
26 Education and the House Committee on Education by March 9, 2026, as to  
27 compliance with this Section by the local school boards. The report shall include  
28 a copy of each policy and the reasonable and customary fee schedules permitted  
29 pursuant to this Section.


30 D. For purposes of this Section:


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(1) "Instructional materials" means content that conveys the knowledge or skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any ~~nonsecure test, nonsecure assessment, or~~ survey administered to a student. The term also includes books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media, DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process.

\* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

# ACT 385

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 579

BY REPRESENTATIVES EMERSON AND CHASSION AND SENATOR EDMONDS

L.A. State Law Institute  
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Classification RS 17

- NOTE §§ 718  
- COPY PGS. 1-6, 19-20

L.A. State Law Institute  
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NO EDITS

Classification RS 40

- COPY PGS. 1, 18-20

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3801(A) and (C) and 3802(A)(1), R.S. 39:98.1, 98.2(A) and (E), 98.3(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph), and 100.161(B)(3), and R.S. 40:1669(J), to enact R.S. 17:407.30.2 and R.S. 39:98.2(F) and 100.161(E), and to repeal Chapter 35 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:3801 through 3805, and R.S. 39:98.3(C) and (E) and 100.116(A)(9), relative to certain treasury funds; to provide for the transfer, deposit, and use, as specified, of monies in certain treasury funds and accounts; to provide for the investment of certain treasury funds and accounts; to repeal certain treasury funds and accounts; to establish the Early Childhood Education Stability Fund; to provide with respect to termination of certain funds; to provide with respect to the authority of the Louisiana State Law Institute; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3801(A) and (C) and 3802(A)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:407.30.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§407.30.2. Early Childhood Education Stability Fund

A. There is hereby established in the state treasury as a special fund the Early Childhood Education Stability Fund, hereafter referred to in this Section as the "fund".

B. After satisfying the requirements of the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, monies shall be deposited into the fund as follows:



1 ~~gains and twenty-five percent of dividend income earned on investment of the~~  
2 ~~Permanent Trust Fund. No appropriation shall be made from the Permanent Trust~~  
3 ~~Fund.~~

4 (2) ~~After six hundred million dollars has been credited to the Permanent~~  
5 ~~Trust Fund from those monies received from the federal government under Section~~  
6 ~~1337(g) of Title 43 of the United States Code which are attributable to mineral~~  
7 ~~production activity or leasing activity on the Outer Continental Shelf which has been~~  
8 ~~held in escrow pending a settlement between the United States and the state of~~  
9 ~~Louisiana, the sum of fifty million dollars shall be credited from such monies to the~~  
10 ~~Coastal Environment Protection Trust Fund, as established in R.S. 30:313; all such~~  
11 ~~funds in excess of seven hundred fifty million dollars shall be credited to the~~  
12 ~~Permanent Trust Fund.~~

13 (3) ~~After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as~~  
14 ~~provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the constitution, and notwithstanding Article~~  
15 ~~XIV, Section 10 of the constitution, seventy-five percent of the recurring revenues~~  
16 ~~received under Section 1337(g) of Title 43 of the United States Code which are~~  
17 ~~attributable to mineral production activity or leasing activity, seventy-five percent~~  
18 ~~of the interest income earned on investment of the Permanent Trust Fund, and~~  
19 ~~twenty-five percent of realized capital gains and seventy-five percent of the dividend~~  
20 ~~income earned on investment of the Permanent Trust Fund shall be deposited and~~  
21 ~~credited to a~~ There is hereby created ~~a special fund which is hereby created~~ in the  
22 state treasury, and which shall be known as the Louisiana Quality Education Support  
23 Fund, hereinafter hereafter referred to in this Section as the "Support Fund".  
24 ~~Beginning July 1, 2001, and only as to and in the accounting of earnings after that~~  
25 ~~date, the treasurer shall account for earnings from the Permanent Fund in a manner~~  
26 ~~which allocates the earnings between the Permanent Fund and the Support Fund in~~  
27 ~~the proportions as herein provided as such earnings are realized. Beginning July 1,~~  
28 ~~2001, and only as to and in the accounting of earnings after that date, the treasurer~~  
29 ~~shall account for earnings attributable to Support Fund balances due the boards of~~

1 ~~education separately and allocate such earnings to the credit of each board~~  
2 ~~respectively.~~

3 ~~(4) All recurring revenues and interest earnings shall be credited to the~~  
4 ~~respective funds as provided in Paragraphs (1) and (2) above until the balance in the~~  
5 ~~Permanent Trust Fund equals two billion dollars. After the Permanent Trust Fund~~  
6 ~~reaches a balance of two billion dollars, all interest earnings on the Permanent Trust~~  
7 ~~Fund shall be credited to the Support Fund and all recurring revenues shall be~~  
8 ~~credited to the State General Fund.~~

9 \* \* \*

10 C.(1) The amounts in the Support Fund shall be available for appropriation  
11 to pay expenses incurred for outside investment managers for the investment and  
12 management of the Permanent Trust Fund and for other custody, investment, and  
13 disbursement costs directly attributable to the Permanent Trust Fund, and for  
14 educational purposes only as provided in these Sections.

15 (2) ~~The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Board~~  
16 ~~of Regents each shall annually submit to the legislature and the governor not less~~  
17 ~~than sixty days prior to the beginning of each regular session of the legislature a~~  
18 ~~proposed program and budget for the expenditure of the monies in the Support Fund.~~  
19 ~~Proposals for such expenditures shall be designed to improve the quality of~~  
20 ~~education. Except for monies appropriated to pay expenses incurred in investment~~  
21 ~~and management of the Permanent Trust Fund, monies appropriated from the~~  
22 ~~Support Fund by the legislature shall be disbursed to the Board of Regents and the~~  
23 ~~State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to be allocated by them as~~  
24 ~~provided by law or the constitution to the programs as previously approved by the~~  
25 ~~legislature.~~

26 (3) The treasurer shall disburse not more than fifty percent of the monies in  
27 the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by  
28 the Board of Regents for any or all of the following higher educational purposes to  
29 enhance economic development:

1 (a) The carefully defined research efforts of public and private universities  
2 in Louisiana.

3 (b) The endowment of chairs for eminent scholars.

4 (c) The enhancement of the quality of academic, research, or agricultural  
5 departments or units within a community college, college, or university. These funds  
6 shall not be used for athletic purposes or programs.

7 (d) The recruitment of superior graduate students.

8 ~~(4)~~ (3) The treasurer shall disburse not more than fifty percent of the monies  
9 in the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by  
10 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for any or all of the  
11 following elementary and secondary educational purposes:

12 (a) To provide compensation to city or parish school board professional  
13 instructional employees.

14 (b) To insure an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books,  
15 equipment, and other instructional materials.

16 (c) To fund exemplary programs in elementary, secondary, or vocational-  
17 technical schools designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic  
18 achievement, or vocational-technical skill.

19 (d) To fund carefully defined research efforts, including pilot programs,  
20 designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic achievement.

21 (e) To fund summer school remediation programs and preschool programs.

22 (f) To fund the teaching of foreign languages in elementary and secondary  
23 schools.

24 (g) To fund an adequate supply of teachers by providing scholarships or  
25 stipends to prospective teachers in academic areas where there is a critical teacher  
26 shortage.

27 \* \* \*

28 §3802. Appropriations; procedure; limitation; administration

29 A.(1) ~~Consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of Louisiana, the~~  
30 The legislature shall appropriate the total amount of the funds in the Louisiana

1 Quality Education Support Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "support fund",  
 2 intended for higher educational purposes to the Board of Regents and the total  
 3 amount intended for elementary and secondary educational purposes to the State  
 4 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education itemized by program or other  
 5 recipient purpose. Such itemization shall occur in both the executive budget and in  
 6 the general appropriation bill and, except as otherwise provided by the constitution,  
 7 budget and appropriation functions shall be conducted as provided by law. Passage  
 8 of the general appropriation bill shall constitute legislative approval of the programs  
 9 or purposes to which money is appropriated.

10 \* \* \*

11 Section 2. R.S. 39:98.1, 98.2(A) and (E), 98.3(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph),  
 12 and 100.161(B)(3) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 39:98.2(F) and 100.161(E)  
 13 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 §98.1. Creation of Funds: Millennium Trust

15 A. There shall be established in the state treasury as a special permanent trust  
 16 fund known as the Millennium Trust. After allocation of money to the Bond  
 17 Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the  
 18 Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Millennium  
 19 Trust certain monies received as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement,  
 20 hereinafter the "Settlement Agreement", executed November 23, 1998, and approved  
 21 by Consent Decree and Final Judgment entered in the case "Richard P. Ieyoub,  
 22 Attorney General, ex rel. State of Louisiana v. Philip Morris, Incorporated, et al.",  
 23 bearing Number 98-6473 on the docket of the Fourteenth Judicial District for the  
 24 parish of Calcasieu, state of Louisiana; and all dividend and interest income and all  
 25 realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust. The  
 26 treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Millennium Trust ~~the following amounts~~  
 27 ~~of monies received as a result of the Settlement Agreement:~~

28 ~~(1) Fiscal Year 2000-2001, forty five percent of the total monies received~~  
 29 ~~that year.~~

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J. The provisions of this Section shall terminate on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2027. Upon termination of the program, the treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to transfer any unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund to the state general fund.

Section 4. R.S. 17:3801(B), (C)(4) and (F) and R.S. 39:98.3(B) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 5. Chapter 35 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:3801 through 3805 and R.S. 39:98.3(C) and 100.116(A)(9) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 6.(A) Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 46:2691(C)(2) and R.S. 56:797(C) and 798(B)(1), among other investments permitted by law, the state treasurer is authorized to invest monies in the Medicaid Trust Fund for the Elderly, Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge Trust and Protection Fund, and the Russell Sage or Marsh Island Refuge Fund in investments permitted for the Millennium Trust. The Louisiana State Law Institute is authorized and directed to change references in these provisions of law to reflect the authorization in this Section.

(B) The Louisiana State Law Institute is further authorized and directed to change the citations to R.S. 17:3803(B) contained in R.S. 49:321.1 to R.S. 39:98.2.

Section 7. The provisions of Section 5 of this Act shall take effect and become operative on July 1, 2026, if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. 473 of this 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

Section 8. The provisions of Sections 1, 2, 4, and 6 of this Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. 473 of this 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

Section 9. This Section and Sections 3, 7, and 8 of this Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section

[ACTS 2025, No. 385]

[ACTS 2025, No. 222]

[ACTS 2025, No. 385]

[ACTS 2025, No. 222]

[NOTE ALL PROVS. [NOTE ALL IN §§ 1, 2, 4, 6] PROVS. IN § 5]

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

HB NO. 579

ENROLLED

1 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved  
2 by the legislature, the provisions of this Section and Sections 3, 7, and 8 shall become  
3 effective on the day following such approval.

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED. *[Signature]*  
June 20, 2025

**ACT 358**

La. State Law Institute

**PRINTER'S COPY**

**ENROLLED**

2025 Regular Session

Edits To: RS 11

Pgs. 5

Note:

HOUSE BILL NO. 371

BY REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BERAULT, CARRIER, CARVER, CHENEVERT, COX, CREWS, DEVILLIER, EDMONSTON, EGAN, FIRMENT, GLORIOSO, HORTON, MACK, MCCORMICK, MOORE, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, TARVER, TAYLOR, VENTRELLA, WILDER, AND WYBLE AND SENATOR HODGES

La. State Law Institute  
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Edits To: RS 13

Pgs. 3, 4

AN ACT

Note:

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5232(1), 5233, 5234(3), (5), and (6)(introductory paragraph), 5237, 5239, and 5240(A) and (B) and R.S. 17:407.33(1) and to enact R.S. 13:5232(7) and 5233.1 and R.S. 17:407.33(9), relative to the Preservation of Religious Freedom Act; to provide relative to the free exercise of religion; to provide for protections for places of worship; to prohibit certain restrictions against places of worship; to provide for an effective date; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5232(1), 5233, 5234(3), (5), and (6)(introductory paragraph), 5237, 5239, and 5240(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:5232(7) and 5233.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5232. Legislative findings

The legislature finds and declares that:

(1) ~~Free~~ The free exercise of religion is a fundamental right of the highest order in this state.

\* \* \*

(7) In 2023, the legislature and the people of Louisiana adopted Article XII, Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana which provides for the freedom of worship in churches or other places of worship.

§5233. Free exercise of religion protected

A. Government shall not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion, even if the burden results from a facially neutral rule or a rule of general

1 applicability, unless it demonstrates that application of the burden to the person is  
 2 both:

- 3 (1) In furtherance of a compelling governmental interest.
- 4 (2) The least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental  
 5 interest.

6 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
 7 government shall provide protections of the highest order to every church or other  
 8 place of worship and shall not discriminate against any church or other place of  
 9 worship by requiring restrictions that are greater than the least severe restrictions that  
 10 are imposed upon or enforced against any secular business, service, or assembly.

11 §5233.1. Protection of the freedom of worship in churches and other religious  
 12 institutions; protection of religious education

13 A. If a church or other place of worship has met the requirements for zoning,  
 14 building code, and fire safety regulation, and has received an occupancy license for  
 15 the use of the building, the government shall not do any of the following:

16 (1) Restrict or deny the use of the building for a meeting based upon the day  
 17 of the week the building is being used.

18 (2) Restrict or deny the use of the building based upon the content or types  
 19 of religious instruction, education, or activities conducted in the building.

20 (3) Restrict or deny the use of the building for a mother's day out program.

21 (4) Restrict or deny the use of the building for a meeting of two or more  
 22 parents or children participating in a home study program, pursuant to R.S. 17:236.1,  
 23 or a nonpublic school not seeking state approval for the purpose of the following:

24 (a) Increasing their child's academic performance.

25 (b) Facilitating socialization for student enrichment.

26 (c) Facilitating student recreational or athletic activities.

27 (5) Restrict or deny the use of the building for a Vacation Bible School or  
 28 a Bible Camp.



1 (2) The actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and court costs, including  
 2 court approved expert witness fees.

3 B. If after satisfying the notice provisions provided in R.S. 13:5238, a person  
 4 obtains preliminary injunctive relief under this Part, the person shall remain entitled  
 5 to the remedies provided in Paragraph (A)(2) of this Section, notwithstanding any  
 6 voluntary cessation or efforts to remove the infringing burden on the moving party's  
 7 religious beliefs.

8 \* \* \*

9 §5239. Remediation

10 Prior to the expiration of the thirty-day period referred to in R.S. 13:5238, an  
 11 agency which receives notice in accordance with R.S. 13:5238 may remedy the  
 12 substantial burden on the person's free exercise of religion. A person with respect  
 13 to whom a substantial burden on the person's free exercise of religion has been cured  
 14 may not bring an action under this Section Part or shall dismiss such action if it is  
 15 already pending.

16 §5240. Limitations and procedures

17 A. Except as stated in Subsection B of this Section, and except as to  
 18 objections, protective orders or writs of mandamus or prohibition, the provisions of  
 19 the Louisiana Governmental Claims Act, R.S. 13:5101 through ~~5108~~ et seq., as  
 20 applicable, shall apply to an action under pursuant to this Part.

21 B. <sup>(1)</sup> A person shall bring an action to assert a claim for damages under this  
 22 Part not later than one year after any of the following:

23 ~~(a)~~ <sup>(1)</sup> The date the person knew or should have known of the substantial  
 24 burden on the person's free exercise of religion.

25 ~~(b)~~ <sup>(2)</sup> The date that an action pursuant to this Part was dismissed by an  
 26 administrative law judge or a court, or there was a finding in favor of the person on  
 27 the merit which resulted in a claim authorized pursuant to this Part.

28 ~~(2)~~ <sup>(2)</sup> Mailing notice under R.S. 13:5238 shall toll the one-year period until the  
 29 seventy-fifth day after the date on which the notice is mailed.

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Section 2. R.S. 17:407.33(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:407.33(9) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§407.33. Definitions

ALPHABETIZE

As used in this Part, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(8) → (9)

(9) → (8)

(1) "Camp" means any place or facility operated by any institution, society, agency, corporation, person or persons, or any other group which serves only children five years of age or older and operates only when school is not in session during the summer months or school holidays including but not limited to a Vacation Bible School or Bible Camp.


(8)

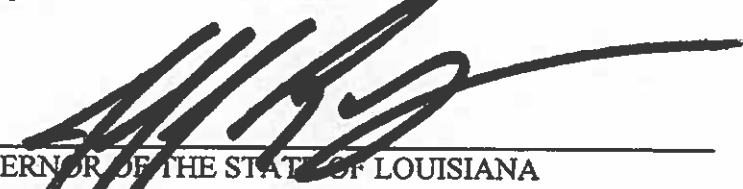
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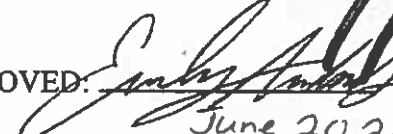
(9) "Mother's day out program" means a religious enrichment program for children offered at a church or other place of worship that meets the requirements of R.S. 17:407.35(B).

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  Page 5 of 5  
June 20, 2025

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

# ACT 439

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 178

La. State Law Institute  
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**NO EDITS**  
Classification RS17

ENROLLED

BY SENATOR JENKINS AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, BAYHAM, BRYANT, WILFORD CARTER, DEVILLIER, EDMONSTON, FISHER, FREIBERG, HUGHES, JACKSON, LAFLEUR, MANDIE LANDRY, LYONS, MENA, NEWELL, RISER, WALTERS, WILLARD AND YOUNG

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:416(A)(1)(b)(i) and the introductory paragraph of 416.8(A)(1)(a) and to enact R.S. 17:416.8(A)(1)(a)(x) and 416.18.1, relative to school employees; to provide for the School Employee Bill of Rights relative to disciplinary matters; to provide for membership on certain committees; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:416(A)(1)(b)(i) and the introductory paragraph of 416.8(A)(1)(a) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:416.8(A)(1)(a)(x) and 416.18.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§416. Discipline of students; suspension; expulsion

A.(1) \* \* \*

(b)(i) Each teacher **and school employee** may take disciplinary action to correct a student who violates school rules or who interferes with an orderly education process. No principal or administrator shall prohibit or discourage a teacher **or school employee** from taking disciplinary action, recommending disciplinary action, or completing a form to initiate disciplinary action against a student who violates school policy or who interferes with an orderly education process. No principal or administrator shall retaliate or take adverse employment action against a teacher **or school employee** for taking disciplinary action against a student. The provisions of this Item shall apply only if the disciplinary action that the teacher **or school employee** takes is in accordance with policy adopted by the public school governing authority.

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§416.8. Discipline policy review committees; school option

A.(1)(a) Each city and parish school board shall establish a discipline policy review committee composed of ~~sixteen~~ seventeen members as follows:

\* \* \*

(x) One paraprofessional to be elected by his peers.

\* \* \*

§416.18.1. School Employee Bill of Rights

A. Respecting the authority of school employees is essential to creating a safe environment conducive to learning, effective instruction in the classroom, and proper administration of city, parish, and other local public schools. To maintain and protect that authority, it is important that school employees, administrators, parents, and students are fully informed of the various rights conferred upon school employees pursuant to this Section, which are:

(1) A school employee has the right to work in a safe, secure, and orderly environment that is conducive to learning and free from recognized dangers or hazards that are causing or likely to cause serious injury in accordance with R.S. 17:416.9 and 416.16.

(2) A school employee has the right to work free from the fear of frivolous lawsuits, including the right to qualified immunity and to a legal defense, and to indemnification by the employing school board, pursuant to R.S. 17:416.4, 416.11, and 439, for actions taken in the performance of duties of the school employee's employment.

(3) A school employee has the right to hold students accountable for disorderly conduct, in accordance with R.S. 17:416 and 416.14 and any city, parish, or other local public school board regulation.

(4) A school employee has the right to have his professional judgment and discretion respected by school and district administrators in any disciplinary action taken by the school employee in accordance with school and district policy and with R.S. 17:416(A)(1)(a) and (b).

(5) A school employee shall have the right to be involved in decisions

1 regarding student behavior management in accordance with R.S. 17:416.8.

2 (6) A school employee shall have the right to additional compensation in  
3 accordance with R.S. 17:418 and 419.2, and any compensation provided by any  
4 city, parish, or other local public school board regulation.

5 (7) A school employee shall not have his wages reduced for any school  
6 year below the amount paid to the school employee in hourly wage or annual  
7 salary during the previous school year, nor shall the amount of the hourly wage  
8 or annual salary paid to any school employee be reduced at any time during an  
9 academic year in accordance with R.S. 17:422.6.

10 (8) A school employee serving as a substitute teacher shall have the right  
11 to additional compensation as provided in R.S. 17:419.3.

12 (9) A school employee has the right to be treated with civility and respect  
13 as provided in R.S. 17:416.12.

14 (10) A school employee shall have the right to perform noncomplex  
15 medical procedures only if all the requirements in R.S. 17:436 have been met  
16 and documented.

17 (11) A school employee shall have the right to administer medication  
18 only if all the requirements in R.S. 17:436.1 have been met and documented.

19 (12) A school employee required by law or regulation to be trained for  
20 a specific job requirement shall be required to perform those specific duties  
21 only if they have received the mandated training and the training has been  
22 documented as required by law or regulation.

23 (13) A school employee shall have the right to professional development  
24 and career advancement and should be supported in advancing their careers,  
25 pursuant to R.S. 17:7.4, 7.7, and 7.8.

26 (14) A school employee has the right to complete only paperwork that is  
27 not excessively burdensome and that, if required by law or regulation, adheres  
28 to the law or regulation and does not result in overly cumbersome  
29 interpretations of that law or regulation.

30 B. No city, parish, or other local public school board shall establish

1 policies that prevent school employees from exercising the rights provided in  
2 this Section or in any other provision included in R.S. 17:416 and 416.14. No  
3 principal or administrator shall retaliate or take adverse employment action  
4 against a school employee for exercising the rights provided in this Section.  
5 However, the provisions of this Section do not authorize a school employee to  
6 violate the provisions of any discipline policy adopted by the public school  
7 governing authority.

8 C. The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to supersede any  
9 other state law, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education policy, or  
10 city, parish, or other local public school board policy enacted or adopted  
11 relative to the discipline of students.

12 D. Each city, parish, or other local public school board shall provide a  
13 copy of this Section to all school employees at the beginning of each school year  
14 in a form or manner approved by the school board. Each school board also shall  
15 post a copy of the rights provided in this Section in a prominent place in every  
16 school and administrative building it operates and provide a copy to parents or  
17 legal guardians of all children attending schools in a form and manner  
18 approved by the school board. Each city, parish, or other local public school  
19 board and every school under its jurisdiction that maintains an internet website  
20 shall post on the website a copy of the School Employee Bill of Rights required  
21 by this Section.

22 E. This Section shall not be construed to require a public school  
23 governing authority to spend its funds to purchase displays. In order to fund the  
24 displays free of charge, the school public governing authority shall do either of  
25 the following:

26 (1) Accept donated funds to purchase the displays.

27 (2) Accept donated displays.

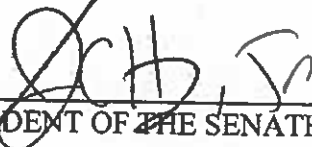
28 F. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt  
29 rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to  
30 ensure the proper implementation of this Section.

SB NO. 178

ENROLLED

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Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025

# ACT 497

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 384

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRYANT AND CHASSION

L.a. State Law Institute  
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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 2  
Note:

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:416(C)(2)(a) and (b) and to enact R.S. 17:416(O), relative to discipline of students in public schools; to provide for discipline of certain students found to be in possession of certain substances on school property; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:416(C)(2)(a) and (b) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:416(O) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§416. Discipline of students; suspension; expulsion

\* \* \*

C.

\* \* \*

(2)(a)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this Section and except as provided in Item (ii) of this Subparagraph, any student in grades six through twelve who is found guilty of being in possession of a firearm, a knife with a blade equal to or in excess of two and one-half inches in length, or any illegal narcotic, drug, or other controlled substance on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event, pursuant to a hearing as provided for by Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, shall be expelled from school for a minimum period of four two complete school semesters and shall be referred to the district attorney for appropriate action. However, the superintendent may modify the length of such minimum expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

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(ii) A student found guilty of being in possession of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof shall not be subject to the provisions of Item (i) of this Subparagraph unless it is the second or subsequent occurrence.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this Section, any student in grades six through twelve found guilty of being in possession of tobacco, alcohol, or vaping product or found guilty on the first occurrence of being in possession of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event may be recommended for expulsion.

\* \* \*

O. Each city, parish, and other local public school board shall gather data and annually report findings related to expulsions to the state Department of Education. This report shall include:

(1) The number of students expelled after the first occasion for committing any of the offenses enumerated in Subsection B or Subsection C of this Section.

(2) The number of students expelled after the second or subsequent occasion for committing any of the offenses enumerated in Subsection B or Subsection C of this Section.

(3) The number of students who return to a regular school setting after completion of the period of expulsion at an alternative school or alternative educational placement.

[Signature]  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[Signature]  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

# ACT 402

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NO EDITS  
Classification RS 11

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 26

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX, BARROW, BASS, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, HARRIS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLER, MIZELL, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SELDERS, TALBOT AND WHEAT AND REPRESENTATIVES BERAULT, CHASSION, DICKERSON, EGAN, FISHER, HUGHES, KNOX, MCMAHEN AND MILLER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:436.3.1, relative to diabetes information; to provide for development of certain type 1 diabetes information; to provide for distribution of the information to parents and legal guardians of students; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:436.3.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§436.3.1. Type 1 diabetes information; distribution to school boards**

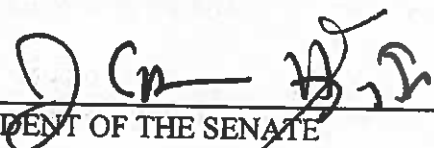
**A.(1) The Louisiana Department of Health shall develop and provide type 1 diabetes informational materials to the state Department of Education. The state Department of Education shall provide the information to each city, parish, and other local public school board.**

**(2) Information provided to the school boards pursuant to this Section shall include but not be limited to all of the following:**

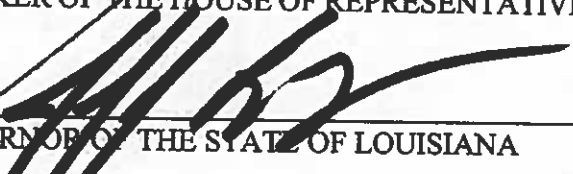
- (a) A description of type 1 diabetes.**
- (b) A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes.**
- (c) A description of the need for screening of all students for early detection of type 1 diabetes using a blood autoantibody test.**
- (d) A recommendation that a parent or guardian of a student displaying warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes or positive early detection screening results should immediately consult with the student's primary care provider to develop an appropriate treatment plan. The treatment plan may include consultation with and examination by a specialty care provider, including but not limited to a properly qualified endocrinologist.**

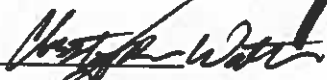
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B. Each city, parish, and other local public school board shall distribute the information to parents and legal guardians of all prekindergarten, elementary, and secondary students upon enrollment and annually thereafter by posting the information on school websites or by electronic distribution.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025

# ACT 298

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 639

BY REPRESENTATIVE RISER AND SENATOR CATHEY

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Edits To: RS 11 Pgs. 3  
Note:

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NO EDITS  
Classification RS 27

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 27:625(B) and (G)(8) and to enact R.S. 17:1792 and R.S.  
3 27:625(G)(9) and (10), relative to online sports wagering tax revenue and student  
4 athletes; to provide for the tax rate on online sports wagering; to allocate online  
5 sports wagering tax revenue; to create a fund for the benefit of university athletic  
6 departments; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 27:625(B) and (G)(8) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
9 27:625(G)(9) and (10) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §625. State tax; levy

11 \* \* \*

12 B. There is hereby levied a ~~fifteen~~ twenty-one and one-half percent tax upon  
13 the net gaming proceeds from sports wagering offered to consumers within this state  
14 pursuant to this Title electronically through a website or mobile application. The  
15 provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to electronic sports wagering conducted  
16 through a sports wagering mechanism.

17 \* \* \*

18 G. After complying with the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, each  
19 fiscal year the state treasurer shall credit the following amounts to the following  
20 funds:

21 \* \* \*

1           (8) ~~Any remaining funds shall be available as state general funds.~~ Twenty-  
 2 five percent of the monies collected pursuant to Subsection B of this Section shall  
 3 be credited to the Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund  
 4 established by R.S. 17:1792.

5           (9) Three percent of the monies collected pursuant to Subsection B of this  
 6 Section shall be credited to the Louisiana Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund  
 7 established by R.S. 17:3138.11.

8           (10) Any remaining funds shall be available as state general funds.

9 ~~Section 2 R.S. 17:1792 is hereby enacted to read as follows.~~

10 §1792. Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund

11           A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund to be known  
 12 as the Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund, hereafter  
 13 in this Section referred to as the "fund".

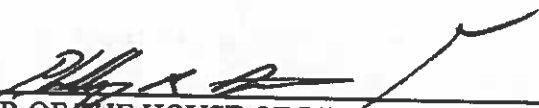
14           B. Monies in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same  
 15 manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on the investment of  
 16 monies in the fund shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Unexpended and  
 17 unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the  
 18 fund.

19           C. After compliance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the  
 20 Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, the  
 21 state treasurer shall deposit into the fund all monies dedicated, transferred, or  
 22 appropriated to the fund. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the Board of  
 23 Regents for distribution to athletic departments at public universities that are  
 24 members of conferences that compete in NCAA Division One athletics at the  
 25 Football Bowl Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision levels in  
 26 Louisiana for the benefit of student athletes. For the purposes of this Section,  
 27 "benefit" means scholarships, insurance, medical coverage, facility enhancements,  
 28 litigation settlement fees, and Alston awards. Each university shall establish  
 29 eligibility criteria for benefits awarded pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

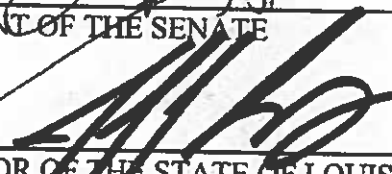
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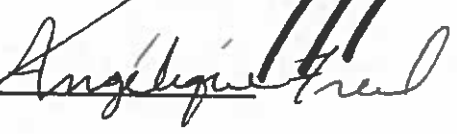
~~D.~~ E. Monies from the fund shall not be used to displace, replace, or supplant any other awards or scholarships.

~~E.~~ F. The Board of Regents shall distribute funds received pursuant to the provisions of this Section equally among eligible institutions. Each eligible university athletic department shall receive an equal distribution of funds for use in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 11, 2025

# ACT 174

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 279

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYD AND SENATORS EDMONDS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MIGUEZ, AND MIZELL

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Classification RS17

NOTE 2

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:1801.1(C)~~, relative to acts of criminal hazing; to provide relative to requirements of certain students at postsecondary education institutions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:1801.1(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1801.1. Hazing education; policies; new student orientation; organizations

\* \* \*


C. Each organization as defined in R.S. 17:1801 shall, as a condition of operating at an institution, adopt the hazing prevention policy that the institution has adopted pursuant to Subsection A of this Section, which shall include possible institutional sanctions against the organization in the event of a reported or confirmed hazing incident, and a policy that prohibits hazing. Each organization shall provide annually at least ~~one hour~~ two hours of hazing prevention education that includes education relative to such policies to all members, prospective members, and anyone who is employed by or volunteers with the organization. The education may be provided in person, electronically, or both. Each organization shall submit a report annually to the institution with which it is affiliated relative to the students, employees, and volunteers receiving such education evidenced by an

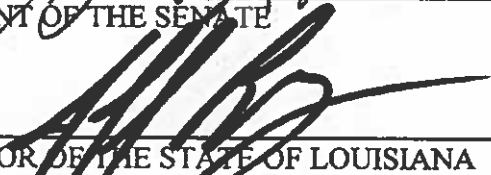
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attestation of such individuals receiving the education. The institution shall terminate the organization's operation on campus if it fails to comply with the provisions of this Subsection and shall submit a report to the House Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Education upon such termination.

Section 2. This Act may be cited and shall be known as the "Anti-Hazing Education: Enough is Enough Act".

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

[NOTE: RS 17:1801.1(c)]

# ACT 167

2025 Regular Session  
HOUSE BILL NO. 246  
BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

ENROLLED  
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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:1964(D)(5) relative to the Jimmy D. Long, Sr. Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts; to provide for the salary schedule established by the board of directors for teachers and other school employees; to provide for the funding of the salaries; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:1964(D)(5) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1964. Board of directors; creation; membership; terms; powers, duties, and functions; voting; compensation

\* \* \*

D. In addition to the authorities granted herein and any powers, duties, and responsibilities vested by any other applicable laws, the board shall:

\* \* \*

(5)(a) Determine faculty and staff positions necessary for the efficient operation of the school and select personnel for such positions.


(b) Establish a salary schedule by which to determine the salaries to be paid to teachers and other school employees in accordance with R.S. 17:418. The cost of the salaries shall be paid from funds subject to appropriation by the legislature.

\* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

ACT 379

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Classification RS 37

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 544

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2048.51(B), (C)(9), (10), and (20), and (G), to enact R.S. 17:2048.51(C)(14), and to repeal <sup>R.S. 17:2048.51(H) and</sup> Part IV-C of Chapter 9 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:2048.61, R.S. 36:651(L)(1)(b) and (c), and Subpart C of Part III of Chapter 11 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:1007, relative to health care workforce development; to provide for the Louisiana Health Works Commission; to provide for its membership; to provide for committees of the commission; to abolish the Nursing Supply and Demand Council; to abolish the Simulation Medical Training and Education Council for Louisiana; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:2048.51(B), (C)(9), (10), and (20), and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:2048.51(C)(14) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2048.51. Louisiana Health Works Commission; creation; membership; compensation; staff and facilities; powers and duties; data collection and reporting

\* \* \*

B. The purpose of the commission is to serve as a collaborative working group to integrate and coordinate resources relative to ~~health care~~ healthcare workforce development within various state departments and key organizations and to carry out those duties previously assigned to the Nursing Supply and Demand Council and the Simulation Medical Training and Education Council for Louisiana.

1 C. The following shall serve as members of the Louisiana Health Works  
2 Commission:

3 \* \* \*

4 (9) The chairman of the Nursing Supply and Demand ~~Council~~ Committee  
5 or his designee.

6 (10) The dean ~~of the School of Allied Health Professions at~~ or a staff  
7 member of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport or  
8 his designee appointed by the president of the Louisiana State University System.

9 \* \* \*

10 (14) One member representing and appointed by the Louisiana Department  
11 of Health, office of public health.

12 \* \* \*

13 (20) The chancellor or a staff member of the Louisiana State University  
14 Health Sciences Center at New Orleans ~~or his designee~~ appointed by the president  
15 of the Louisiana State University System.

16 \* \* \*

17 G. The Louisiana Health Works Commission shall have the following  
18 committees:

19 (1)(a) ~~There shall be an~~ An executive committee composed of the following:

20 (†) (i) The commissioner of higher education or his designee for the  
21 commission.

22 (‡) (ii) The chairman of the Nursing Supply and Demand ~~Council~~ Committee  
23 or his designee for the commission.

24 (‡) (iii) The president of the University of Louisiana System or his designee  
25 for the commission.

26 (†) (iv) The dean ~~of the School of Allied Health Professions at~~ or a staff  
27 member of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport  
28 appointed by the president of the Louisiana State University System or his designee  
29 for the commission.

1           ~~(5)~~ (v) The president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee  
2 for the commission.

3           ~~(6)~~ (vi) The executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association  
4 or his designee.

5           ~~(7)~~ (vii) The president of the Louisiana State Medical Society or his designee.

6           ~~(8)~~ (viii) The president of the Southern University System or his designee for  
7 the commission.

8           ~~(9)~~ (ix) The chancellor or a staff member of the Louisiana State University  
9 Health Sciences Center at New Orleans appointed by the president of the Louisiana  
10 State University System or his designee for the commission.

11           ~~(10)~~ (x) The president of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians or his  
12 designee for the commission.

13           ~~(11)~~ (xi) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College  
14 System or his designee for the commission.

15           ~~(12)~~ (xii) The president of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges  
16 and Universities or his designee for the commission.

17           (xiii) The president of the Louisiana State Nurses Association or his designee  
18 for the commission.

19           H. (b) The executive committee shall:

20           ~~(1)~~ (i) Elect the chairperson of the commission. The chair of the Nursing  
21 Supply and Demand Committee shall serve as the vice chair of the commission.

22           ~~(2)~~ (ii) Establish rules of procedure to be adopted in accordance with the  
23 Administrative Procedure Act.

24           ~~(3)~~ (iii) Perform other tasks as the commission directs or the adopted rules  
25 of procedure require.

26           (2) A Nursing Supply and Demand Committee, to consist of representatives  
27 of all organizations previously represented on the Nursing Supply and Demand  
28 Council who are not represented on the Health Works Commission, in addition to  
29 any other members of the Health Works Commission as appointed by its chair.

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(3) A Simulation Medical Training and Education Committee, to consist of representatives of all organizations previously represented on the Simulation Medical Training and Education Council who are not represented on the Health Works Commission, any members of the Health Works Commission as may be appointed by its chair, and the following members:


- (a) A representative of Xavier School of Medicine.
- (b) A representative of the Edward Via School of Osteopathic Medicine.
- (c) A representative of Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University.

\* \* \*

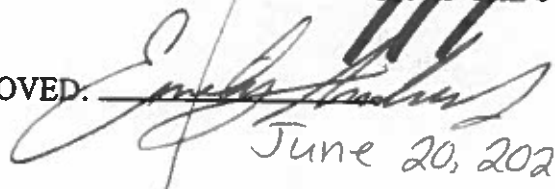
Section 2. R.S. 17:2048.61, Part IV-C of Chapter 9 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:2048.61, R.S. 36:651(L)(1)(b) and (c), and Subpart C of Part III of Chapter 11 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:1007, are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED.   
June 20, 2025

# ACT 51

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 71

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRASS AND CHASSION

La. State Law Institute  
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NO EDITS  
Classification RS17

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2922.1(B)(1)(introductory paragraph), (j), and (k) and to  
3 enact R.S. 17:2922.1(B)(1)(o), relative to the Dual Enrollment Task Force; to  
4 provide for the membership of the task force; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:2922.1(B)(1)(introductory paragraph), (j), and (k) are hereby  
7 amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:2922.1(B)(1)(o) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §2922.1. Dual Enrollment Framework Task Force; creation; purpose; membership;  
9 definitions; reporting; termination

10 \* \* \*

11 B.(1) The task force shall be composed of fourteen fifteen members as  
12 follows:

13 \* \* \*

14 (j) The ~~president of Council~~ chief executive officer of Leaders for a Better  
15 Louisiana or his designee.

16 (k) The ~~executive director of Stand for Children Louisiana~~ chief executive  
17 officer of the Pelican Institute for Public Policy or his designee.

18 \* \* \*

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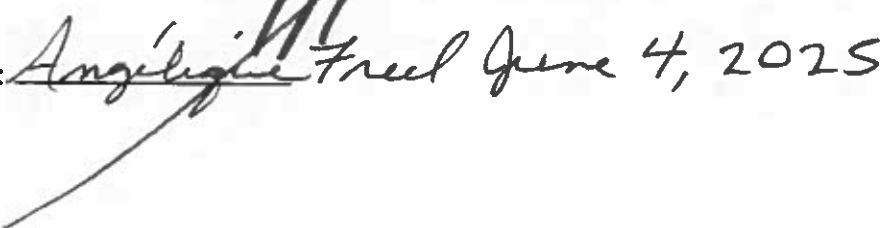
(o) The chief executive officer of Ellevate Louisiana or her designee.

\* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 4, 2025

# ACT 152

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 161

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

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NO EDITS

Classification RS17  
- NOTE § 2

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~~AN ACT~~

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5002(D)(1) and 5081(B)(1) and (D)(4) and to enact R.S. 17:3047.1(H), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to provide relative to TOPS Tech and TOPS Tech Early Start; to provide for eligibility requirements; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5002(D)(1) and 5081(B)(1) and (D)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3047.1(H) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3047.1. Advisory council; membership; responsibilities

\* \* \*

H. The advisory council shall identify programs in which an eligible student may enroll to receive a TOPS-Tech or TOPS-Tech Early Start award. The council shall consider the qualifications for qualified programs for the M.J. Foster Promise Program when identifying such programs.

\* \* \*

§5002. Awards and amounts

\* \* \*

D.(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, a student who is eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant to this Chapter and who is enrolled:

(a) In an eligible public college or university that does not offer an academic undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level in those associate's degree or other

1 shorter-term training and education programs ~~that are aligned to state workforce~~  
 2 ~~priorities as determined by the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce~~  
 3 ~~Investment Council; as determined by the advisory council pursuant to R.S.~~  
 4 ~~17:3047.1,~~ shall be awarded by the state an amount determined by the administering  
 5 agency to equal the tuition charged by the college or university during the 2016-2017  
 6 academic year. If the ~~Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce Investment~~  
 7 ~~Council determine~~ such council determines that a program is no longer aligned with  
 8 those priorities, an otherwise eligible student who had previously received an award  
 9 and enrolled in that program may continue to use the award.

10 (b) In an eligible college or university other than as provided for in  
 11 Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph in those associate's degree or other shorter-term  
 12 training education programs ~~that are aligned to state workforce priorities as~~  
 13 ~~determined by the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce Investment~~  
 14 ~~Council; as determined by the advisory council pursuant to R.S. 17:3047.1,~~ shall be  
 15 awarded by the state an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the  
 16 weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending an eligible  
 17 public college or university that does not offer an academic undergraduate degree at  
 18 the baccalaureate level during the 2016-2017 academic year. If the ~~Board of Regents~~  
 19 ~~and the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council determine~~ such council determines  
 20 that a program is no longer aligned with those priorities, an otherwise eligible  
 21 student who had previously received an award and enrolled in that program may  
 22 continue to use the award.

23 \* \* \*

24 §5081. TOPS-Tech Early Start Award; purpose; eligibility; limitations;  
 25 administration; implementation; reports

26 \* \* \*

27 B.(1) A TOPS-Tech Early Start Award may be used to fund any technical  
 28 ~~or applied course leading to an Industry-Based Certification, a Certificate of Applied~~  
 29 ~~Science, and a Certificate of Technical Sciences offered at a Louisiana public or~~  
 30 ~~nonpublic postsecondary education institution or by any Louisiana training provider~~

1 ~~recognized by the Louisiana Workforce Commission and approved by the State~~  
2 ~~Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as provided in Paragraph (4) of this~~  
3 ~~Subsection when such certification or certificate is approved by the Workforce~~  
4 ~~Investment Council as meeting the following requirements:~~ qualified program, as  
5 determined by the advisory council pursuant to R.S. 17:3047.1.

6 (a) ~~Is identified by the Occupation Forecasting Conference as a credential~~  
7 ~~for an occupation in top demand in Louisiana:~~

8 (b) ~~Is recognized by the State Industry-Based Certification Leadership~~  
9 ~~Council.~~

10 \* \* \*

11 D. To be eligible for an initial TOPS-Tech Early Start Award, a student shall  
12 meet each of the following conditions and comply with other applicable provisions  
13 of this Section and administering agency rules:

14 \* \* \*

15 (4) Meet one of the following:

16 (a) Score at least fifteen on the English subsection and fifteen on the  
17 mathematics subsection of the ACT PLAN assessment or a successor assessment  
18 administered as part of Louisiana's Educational Planning and Assessment System or  
19 the ACT or an equivalent concordant value of the SAT.

20 (b) ~~or have attained~~ Attain a silver level score on the assessments of the ACT  
21 WorkKeys system.

22 (c) Meet the eligibility requirements for technical dual enrollment courses  
23 as determined by the Board of Regents.

24 \* \* \*

25 Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply to awards for the 2026-2027 school  
26 year and thereafter.

27 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
28 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
29 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

NOTE: ALL PROVISIONS  
IN THIS ACT

[ACTS 2025, No. 152]

HB NO. 161

**ENROLLED**

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vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

*Philip B. Canale*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*John A. Tr. ...*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: *Angilegia Noel June 8, 2025*

# ACT 110

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 118

BY SENATORS FOIL, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BASS, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SEABAUGH, STINE, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION, KNOX, LAFLEUR AND MARCELLE

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 1-2

Note: - NOTE § 3

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Edits To: RS 47 Pgs. 2

Note: - NOTE § 3

## AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3088 and to enact R.S. 47:293(9)(a)(xxvii), relative to the Achieving a Better Life Experience Account Program (ABLE); to provide relative to tax table income; to exclude certain deposits into ABLE accounts for financing of certain qualified expenses of persons with disabilities; to require certain information to be reported to the Department of Revenue; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3088 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3088. Amounts deposited in ABLE accounts; Louisiana income tax; tax table income; reports to the Department of Revenue

~~For tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2016, amounts deposited in an ABLE account on behalf of any designated beneficiary may be excluded from tax table income for purposes of Louisiana income tax if authorized by the provisions of R.S. 47:293(9)(a):~~ A. For tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, amounts that an account owner deposits into an ABLE account on behalf of any designated beneficiary shall be exempt from inclusion in the account owner's taxable income for the purposes of state individual income tax up to a maximum of two thousand four hundred dollars per beneficiary per taxable year for account owners filing single returns and up to a maximum of four thousand eight hundred dollars per beneficiary per taxable year for account owners filing joint returns, as provided in R.S. 47:293(9)(a)(xxvii). If an account owner

1 deposits less than the maximum two thousand four hundred dollars per year in  
 2 an owned account and files a single return or if married account owners deposit  
 3 less than the maximum of four thousand eight hundred dollars per year in an  
 4 account or accounts for a beneficiary and file a joint return, the difference  
 5 between the total deposits and two thousand four hundred dollars or four  
 6 thousand eight hundred dollars, respectively, shall roll over to subsequent years  
 7 and shall be exempt from inclusion in the account owner's taxable income for  
 8 the purposes of state income tax in addition to the two thousand four hundred  
 9 dollars or four thousand eight hundred dollars in the year actually deposited,  
 10 as provided in R.S. 47:293(9)(a)(~~xxvii~~)<sup>(xxviii)</sup>.

11 B. On or before the thirty-first day of January of each year, the authority  
 12 shall submit a report to the secretary of the Department of Revenue listing all  
 13 donations made to ABLE accounts during the prior calendar year. The report  
 14 shall be in electronic format and shall contain the name of the account owner,  
 15 the account owner's social security number, and the amount of all deposits  
 16 made by the account owner into the savings account during the prior calendar  
 17 year.

18 ~~Section 2. R.S. 47:293(9)(a)(xxvii) is hereby enacted to read as follows.~~

19 §293. Definitions

20 The following definitions shall apply throughout this Part, unless the context  
 21 requires otherwise:

22 \* \* \*

23 (9)(a) "Tax table income", for resident individuals, means adjusted gross  
 24 income plus interest on obligations of a state or political subdivision thereof, other  
 25 than Louisiana and its municipalities, title to which obligations vested with the  
 26 resident individual on or subsequent to January 1, 1980, and less:

27 \* \* \*

28 ~~(xxvii)~~ <sup>(xxviii)</sup> For tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, the amount  
 29 deposited in a special savings account for financing of certain qualified expenses  
 30 of persons with disabilities as provided in R.S. 17:3088 and any interest

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accrued; however, any deposit plus interest withdrawn from a special savings account for purposes other than paying qualified disability expenses, as defined in R.S. 17:3082, shall be included in taxable income.

\* \* \*

[ACTS 2025, No. 110]

Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable for taxable periods beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

NOTE: CALL PROVISIONS IN THIS ACT

*[Signature]*

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

*[Signature]*

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*[Signature]*

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:

*Angelique Friel June 8, 2025*

# ACT 157

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 202

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYD, BAYHAM, BRASS, BRYANT, CHASSION, FISHER, JACKSON, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MENA, MOORE, NEWELL, PHELPS, TAYLOR, WALTERS, AND YOUNG AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, DUPLESSIS, AND SELDERS

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Classification RS17

AN ACT

To enact R.S. ~~17:3138.1~~, relative to postsecondary education management boards; to require each public postsecondary education institution to offer a privacy waiver to its students for certain health information; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3138.1. Waiver: health information: form

Each public postsecondary education management board shall require each institution under its jurisdiction to make available to every student a form on which the student may authorize the institution to disclose otherwise protected health information to persons designated by the student in the event of a mental health crisis or situation where the student poses a risk to himself or others. The form shall be presented as follows:

<u>Authorization to Release Information in the Event of a Mental Health Crisis</u>	
<u>Student Name</u>	
<u>Student ID Number</u>	
<u>Date of Birth</u>	
<u>Education Institution Name</u>	
<u>Purpose of Authorization</u>	

1 In compliance with applicable privacy laws, this form allows the above-named  
 2 institution to notify my parent(s), guardian(s), or other designated individuals in the  
 3 event of a mental health crisis or situation where I may pose a risk to myself or others.

4 **Section 1: Designated Contact(s)**

5 I hereby authorize the institution to contact the following individual(s):

6 **1. Primary Contact**

7 <u>Name:</u>	
8 <u>Relationship to Student:</u>	
9 <u>Phone Number:</u>	
10 <u>Email Address:</u>	

11 **2. Secondary Contact (Optional)**

12 <u>Name:</u>	
13 <u>Relationship to Student:</u>	
14 <u>Phone Number:</u>	
15 <u>Email Address:</u>	

16 **Section 2: Scope of Information to Be Shared**

17 I authorize the education institution to share the following types of information with  
 18 the designated contact(s):

- 19 : General nature of the mental health crisis.
- 20 : Actions taken by the education institution (i.e. hospitalization, counseling  
 21 referral).
- 22 : Recommendations for follow-up care.

23 I understand that specific diagnoses or treatment details will not be disclosed unless  
 24 otherwise authorized or required by law.

25 **Section 3: Duration of Authorization**

26 This authorization will remain in effect (select one):

27  Until the conclusion of my enrollment at the education institution.

28  Until I submit a written request to revoke this authorization.

29 **Section 4: Student Acknowledgment**

1 I understand the following:

- 2 : I am voluntarily granting this authorization.
- 3 : I have the right to revoke this authorization at any time by submitting a written
- 4 request to the education institution.
- 5 : Revocation of this authorization will not apply to information already shared
- 6 under this consent.
- 7 : This authorization does not require the education institution to notify my
- 8 designated contact(s) unless deemed necessary.

9 Signature of Student:

10 Section 5: University Representative Acknowledgment

11 Signature of Representative:

12 Printed Name:

13 Title:

14 Date:

15 Privacy Notice

16 The information disclosed under this authorization is protected by federal and state  
17 privacy laws. The education institution will use reasonable efforts to safeguard your  
18 information in accordance with these laws.

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

# ACT 130

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 54

BY REPRESENTATIVE HORTON AND SENATORS EDMONDS, JACKSON-ANDREWS, AND OWEN

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Classification RS17  
- NOTE 2

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:3138.5(B)(1)~~ and (D)(3) and (4)(d) and to enact R.S. 17:3138.5(B)(2)(f) through (i), relative to postsecondary education institutions; to change the name of a designation an institution may earn from "Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus" to "Purple Star Campus"; to provide for requirements; to provide relative to the length of the term of the designation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.5(B)(1) and (D)(3) and (4)(d) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3138.5(B)(2)(f) through (i) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3138.5. ~~Military and veteran friendly campus; Purple Star Campus;~~ designation; process; eligibility; applications

\* \* \*

B.(1) The Board of Regents shall establish a process for a postsecondary education institution to be designated as a ~~"Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly"~~ "Purple Star Campus".

(2) To be eligible to receive the designation as specified in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, an institution shall, at a minimum, meet all of the following criteria:

\* \* \*

(f) Designate a faculty or staff member to serve as a military liaison.

(g) Maintain a section on its website highlighting resources for military students and their families.

(h) Maintain a student-led transition program that assists military students by acclimating them to the campus and its facilities and local resources.



# ACT 10

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 142

BY REPRESENTATIVES MENA, BACALA, BAYHAM, BOYD, BRASS, WILFORD  
CARTER, CHASSION, FISHER, HUGHES, TRAVIS JOHNSON, KNOX,  
MILLER, MOORE, NEWELL, SCHLEGEL, TAYLOR, AND WALTERS

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 2

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) and (5) through (24) and (D) and to enact R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(25) and (26) and (G)(1)(I), relative to the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities; to provide for the membership of the council; to provide for payment of certain expenses; to provide for the duties of the council; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) and (5) through (24) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(25) and (26) and (G)(1)(I) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

\* \* \*

B. The council shall be composed of ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-six members as follows:

\* \* \*

(5) The chancellor of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, or his designee.

~~(6)~~ (7) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his designee.

~~(6)~~ (7) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or his designee.

~~(7)~~ (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his designee.

~~(8)~~ (9) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, or his designee.

1           (9) (10) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.

2           ~~(10)~~ (11) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education, or his designee.

4           ~~(11)~~ (12) The secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, or his  
5 designee.

6           ~~(12)~~ (13) The secretary of <sup>g</sup>the Louisiana <sup>Works</sup>~~Workforce~~ Commission, or his  
7 designee.

8           ~~(13)~~ (14) The president of the Louisiana State Conference of the National  
9 Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or his designee.

10          ~~(14)~~ (15) The president of the Urban League of Louisiana, or his designee.

11          ~~(15)~~ (16) ~~The president of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana,~~  
12 ~~or his designee.~~ The president of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus  
13 Foundation, or his designee.

14          ~~(16)~~ (17) The president of the Senate, or his designee.

15          ~~(17)~~ (18) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.

16          ~~(18)~~ (19) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his  
17 designee.

18          ~~(19)~~ (20) A member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, appointed  
19 by the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the  
20 House of Representatives, the appointed member shall be a member of the Senate.  
21 If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the Senate, the appointed member shall  
22 be a member of the House of Representatives.

23          ~~(20)~~ (21) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.

24          ~~(21)~~ (22) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.

25          ~~(22)~~ (23) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his  
26 designee.

27          ~~(23)~~ (24) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his  
28 designee.

29          ~~(24)~~ (25) A student serving as student body president of a public or private  
30 HBCU in Louisiana, selected annually by the HBCU student body presidents.

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(26) An at-large member appointed by the chairman of the council, who shall serve for no more than two years.

\* \* \*

D.(1) Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses as provided by the appointing authority.

(2) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the Board of Regents may pay for travel and lodging expenses for attendance at council meetings for the student member.

\* \* \*

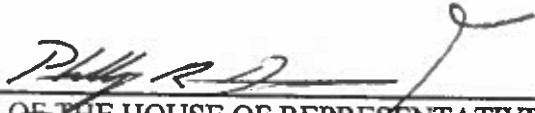
G. The council shall:


(1) Advise the commissioner of higher education regarding methods to enhance the capabilities of HBCUs to serve the needs of their students and the state and methods whereby the state can better serve HBCUs. The council shall also help identify methods to:

\* \* \*

(1) Share best practices regarding campus safety.

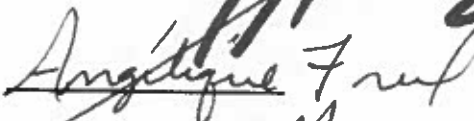
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\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:

  
May 28, 2025

# ACT 187

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 373

BY REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, BAYHAM, BOYD, BRYANT, CARRIER, WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, EGAN, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, KNOX, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MCFARLAND, MENA, MILLER, NEWELL, ROMERO, SPELL, TAYLOR, WALTERS, WILLARD, AND WYBLE

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 1-3

Note:

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3914(N)(1)(a), to enact R.S. 17:3138.13, and to repeal R.S. 17:3914(C)(1)(j) and (N)(1)(c), relative to career and technical education; to require the Louisiana Workforce Commission to perform an annual return on investment analysis with respect to industry-based credentials earned in high school; to provide for the purpose and content of the analysis; to require an annual report on the analysis to certain legislative committees and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide with respect to the collection and sharing of certain student data for the purpose of the analysis; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3914(N)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3138.13 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3138.13. Return on investment analysis; industry-based credentials

A. <sup>WORKS</sup> ~~The Louisiana Workforce Commission~~ shall perform an annual return on investment analysis, including but not limited to employment rates and wage outcomes, for the purpose of evaluating the relationship between industry-based

1 credentials earned by high school students and the students' attainment of high-wage,  
2 high-demand jobs that are aligned with state workforce priorities.

3 department  
4 B. The ~~commission~~ shall submit a written report on the analysis to the House  
5 Committee on Education, the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations,  
6 the Senate Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial  
7 Relations, and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education not later than  
8 February first annually. The ~~commission~~ shall report student information only in the  
9 aggregate and shall not include any student's personally identifiable information as  
10 defined in R.S. 17:3914(B)(1) in the report.

11 \* \* \*

12 §3914. Student information; privacy; legislative intent; definitions; prohibitions;  
13 parental access; penalties

14 \* \* \*

15 N.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, each  
16 public secondary school governing authority shall do the following:

17 (a) For the sole purpose of evaluating state and federal programs that prepare  
18 students for postsecondary education, workforce training, and employment,  
19 including the return on investment analysis conducted by the Louisiana <sup>WORKS</sup> Workforce  
20 Commission pursuant to R.S. 17:3138.13, collect the social security number of each  
21 student who is pursuing a diploma, not later than the beginning of the student's senior  
22 year, ~~subject to the permission of the student's parent or legal guardian or the~~  
23 permission of the student if he has reached the age of majority. In order to facilitate  
24 the performance of these evaluations, each governing authority shall share the  
25 collected social security numbers, matched to the corresponding student names and  
26 unique student identification numbers, with the state Department of Education, and  
the department shall share the social security numbers and other information with the


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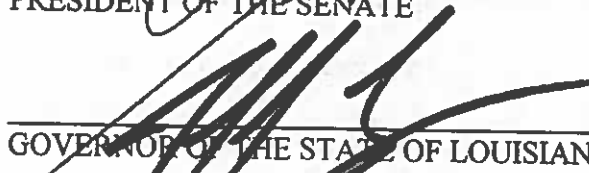
Louisiana Works departments  
~~commission.~~ The department and the ~~commission~~ shall keep the social security  
numbers confidential except for this purpose.

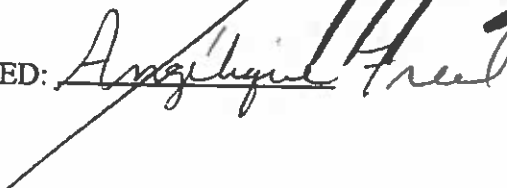
\* \* \*

Section 2. R.S. 17:3914(C)(1)(j) and (N)(1)(c) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 8, 2025

# ACT 447

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 202

BY SENATORS HARRIS, CARTER, EDMONDS AND JACKSON-ANDREWS AND REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYD, CARPENTER, CARVER, CHASSION, COATES, COX, FISHER, ILLG, JACKSON, KNOX, LYONS, MACK, MENA, NEWELL, STAGNI, TAYLOR, VILLIO AND WYBLE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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Edits To: RS 17 Pgs. 13  
Note: - NOTE §§ 344

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:3215(9)~~ and 3241(B)(2), to enact R.S. 17:3215(10) and 3230.1, and to repeal R.S. 17:3217(A)(9) and 3230, relative to postsecondary education; to provide for the transfer of the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System; to provide relative to the transfer of the facilities, resources, funds, obligations, and functions of the institution; to provide for the transition responsibilities of the impacted institution and management boards and the division of administration; to provide for cooperative agreements; to provide relative to accreditation issues; to provide relative to funding; to provide relative to employees; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3215(9) and 3241(B)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. ~~17:3215(10)~~ and 3230.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3215. Louisiana State University system

The Louisiana State University system is composed of the institutions under the supervision and management of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College as follows:

\* \* \*

**(9) The University of New Orleans.**

~~(9)~~**(10)** Any other college, university, school, institution or program now or

1 hereafter under the supervision and management of the Board of Supervisors of  
2 Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.

3 \* \* \*

4 §3230.1. The University of New Orleans; transfer to the Louisiana State  
5 University System

6 A.(1) Not later than August 1, 2025, the president of the University of  
7 New Orleans shall submit a letter to the president of the Southern Association  
8 for Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges, stating her intent for a  
9 change in governance for the institution from the Board of Supervisors for the  
10 University of Louisiana System to the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State  
11 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.

12 (2) The president, faculty, and administration of the University of New  
13 Orleans shall take every action necessary to efficiently and expeditiously comply  
14 with all established timelines, requirements, and procedures to ensure that the  
15 requested change of governance may be effected immediately upon receipt of  
16 commission approval.

17 B.(1) Pursuant to the authority granted to the legislature by Article VIII,  
18 Section 5(D)(3) of the Constitution of Louisiana to transfer an institution from  
19 one board to another by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of  
20 each house, the University of New Orleans, and the assets, funds, obligations,  
21 liabilities, programs, and functions related thereto, are hereby transferred to  
22 the Louisiana State University System, and shall be under the management and  
23 supervision of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and  
24 Agricultural and Mechanical College.

25 (2) The provisions of this Subsection shall become effective immediately  
26 upon receipt of approval from the Southern Association for Colleges and  
27 Schools, Commission on Colleges, for the requested change in governance.

28 C. The Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and  
29 Agricultural and Mechanical College shall develop policies and procedures to  
30 resolve issues related to the status and tenure of employees of the University of

1 New Orleans which may arise from the transfer of the institution to the  
2 Louisiana State University System, and shall take necessary actions to support  
3 the transition, including but not limited to:

4 (1) The formation of a transition team comprised of stakeholders from  
5 the Greater New Orleans region and members of the House and Senate  
6 committees on education.

7 (2) Development of a comprehensive transition plan informed by  
8 external assessments of finances, academic programs, and facilities as  
9 appropriate, to improve the academic, operational and fiscal performance of the  
10 University of New Orleans, and present the plan to the Board of Regents and  
11 the House and Senate committees on education no later than April 1, 2026.

12 D. The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System  
13 shall:

14 (1) Continue to exercise its authority to supervise and manage the  
15 University of New Orleans until such time as the Southern Association for  
16 Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges, grants approval for the  
17 requested change in governance and transfer of the University of New Orleans  
18 to the Louisiana State University System.

19 (2)(a) Work cooperatively and collaboratively with the Board of  
20 Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical  
21 College to ensure that the requested transfer may be effected immediately upon  
22 receipt of commission approval for the change in governance.

23 (b) Prior to receipt of such approval, enter into agreements to transfer  
24 as many administrative and supervisory functions as possible with respect to the  
25 University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System, without  
26 adversely impacting the accreditation status of the institution.

27 (3) Prior to receipt of such approval, continue to balance the University  
28 of New Orleans' budget in close collaboration with the Board of Supervisors of  
29 Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, with a  
30 view to strengthening the fiscal health of the University of New Orleans.

1                   (4) Upon receipt of such approval, immediately transfer all assets, funds,  
2                   facilities, property, obligations, liabilities, programs, and functions relative to  
3                   the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System.

4                   E. The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System shall  
5                   not:

6                   (1) Interfere with, or impede in any way, the processes to transfer the  
7                   University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System.

8                   (2) Sell, transfer, or otherwise remove any asset or thing of value,  
9                   movable or immovable, tangible or intangible, attributable to or owned by the  
10                  University of New Orleans, or owned, leased by, or operated by any foundation  
11                  related to such institution. In addition, access to any asset leased to any  
12                  foundation related to the University of New Orleans shall not be restricted or  
13                  denied.

14                  (3) Incur, transfer, or assign any debt or other responsibility or  
15                  obligation to the University of New Orleans that is not properly attributable to  
16                  the institution.

17                  (4)(a) Disproportionately reduce or reallocate the level of funding that  
18                  would otherwise be allocated to the University of New Orleans pursuant to the  
19                  postsecondary education funding formula.

20                  (b) Until such time as the University of New Orleans is transferred to the  
21                  Louisiana State University System, impose any budget reductions or changes in  
22                  funding allocations upon the institution without prior review of the Board of  
23                  Regents and approval from the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

24                  F. The commissioner of administration shall:

25                  (1) Ensure that sufficient funds and resources are available to fully effect  
26                  the transfer of the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University  
27                  System. Such funding and resources shall not impact the Board of Regents'  
28                  formula for the equitable distribution of funds to institutions of postsecondary  
29                  education.

30                  (2) Purchase available insurance for indemnification and costs which

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may arise from the transfer; provided however, that the commissioner of administration shall indemnify and hold harmless the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College and the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System for any liability and costs which may result from the transfer of existing contracts, financing, or immovable property.

G. Upon the date of transfer, any and all funds previously paid by the University of New Orleans to the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System shall be paid instead to the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College; however, the total amount of such payments shall not be less than that paid during the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year.

H. The legislature shall appropriate sufficient funds to the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College and the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System to fully effect the transfer of the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System. The legislature may place reasonable conditions on the granting of transition funding, such as the receipt of a comprehensive transition plan or demonstration of benchmarks reached.

\* \* \*

§3241. Legislative intent; goals

\* \* \*

B. The legislature finds that these goals will best be accomplished through the following actions:

\* \* \*

~~(2) The Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges each shall adopt by not later than February 1, 2012, a written plan of action including timelines, deadlines, requirements, and procedures for achieving the goals specified~~

1 in Subsection A of this Section as they relate to the powers, duties, functions, and  
 2 responsibilities of the boards provided by Article VIII, Section 5(E), of the  
 3 Constitution of Louisiana and other applicable law. Each board also shall submit  
 4 copies of its adopted action plan to the House Committee on Education and the  
 5 Senate Committee on Education: **The Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State**  
 6 **University and Agricultural and Mechanical College's plan pursuant to R.S.**  
 7 **17:3230.1(C)(2) shall set a bold vision for the success of the University of New**  
 8 **Orleans and robust implementation of the plan to ensure world-class**  
 9 **educational offerings for the Greater New Orleans region. The plan shall**  
 10 **address, at a minimum, strong alignment to the workforce needs of the region**  
 11 **and the state, a focus on both excellence and efficiency in the integrated delivery**  
 12 **of higher education in the region, and comprehensive stakeholder engagement**  
 13 **to ensure community support.**

14 Section 2. R.S. 17:3217(A)(9) and 3230 are hereby repealed.

15 Section 3.(A) This Act is not intended to nor shall it be construed to impair the  
 16 contractual or other obligations of any agency, office, board, commission, department, or  
 17 political subdivision, or of the state as a result of the transfers of obligations in accordance  
 18 with this Act. Upon the effective date of the transfer of the University of New Orleans, all  
 19 such obligations of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System related  
 20 to the University of New Orleans shall be deemed to be obligations of the Board of  
 21 Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College to the  
 22 same extent as if originally incurred by it.

23 (B) All funds and revenues previously dedicated by authority of the constitution and  
 24 laws of this state to the payment of any bonds related to the University of New Orleans shall  
 25 continue to be collected and dedicated to such payments unless and until other provision is  
 26 made for such payments in accordance with law. Upon the effective date of the transfer of  
 27 the University of New Orleans, all acts relating to such bonds by the Board of Supervisors  
 28 for the University of Louisiana System shall be deemed to be the acts of the Board of  
 29 Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in the  
 30 same manner and to the same extent as if originally so done.

NOTE ALL PROVISIONS  
IN THIS ACT

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(C) No provision of this Act shall preclude a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under which a bonded indebtedness obligation of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System existing on the effective date of this Act would remain in force after an agreement that the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College would be responsible for all payments, costs, and other covenants contained in said bonded indebtedness. If the maintenance of bonded indebtedness by the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System for properties or assets to be transferred to the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College is advantageous to the state of Louisiana, then the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System shall make every effort to maintain such bonded indebtedness under a Memorandum of Understanding as described herein.

(D) The provisions of this Section shall have the full force and effect of law.

*[Acts 2025, No. 447]*

Section 4. The implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

Section 5. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: *[Signature]*  
*June 20, 2025*

# ACT 88

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 566

BY REPRESENTATIVES TURNER, AMEDEE, BOYER, BRASS, ILLG, MIKE  
JOHNSON, AND OWEN

**La. State Law Institute**  
**PRINTER'S COPY**  
**NO EDITS**  
Classification RS 17

AN ACT

To enact R.S. ~~17:3369.3(A)(8)~~ and R.S. ~~38:2225.6~~, relative to job order contracting; to create an alternative project delivery method for improvements for deferred maintenance of public facilities by a postsecondary education institution; to provide for definitions; to provide for selection methods for job order contracts; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. ~~17:3369.3(A)(8)~~ is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3369.3. Authority of the board to execute agreements related to the finance of deferred maintenance and capital improvements

A.

\* \* \*

(8) Projects financed or constructed pursuant to the program established in this Part may be executed through job order contracting in accordance with the provisions of R.S. ~~38:2225.6~~.

\* \* \*

Section 2. R.S. ~~38:2225.6~~ is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2225.6. Job order contracting; postsecondary education institution

A. This Section establishes an alternative project delivery method for job order contracts created specifically for improvements addressing deferred maintenance of public facilities by a postsecondary education institution when the

1 work is of a recurring nature but the delivery times, type, and quantities of work  
2 required are indefinite.

3 B. For purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the following  
4 meanings ascribed to them:

5 (1) "Public facility" or "public facilities" shall mean buildings, equipment,  
6 utilities, site components, roads and streets, and other permanent property or  
7 immovable property under the supervision and control of the board overseeing the  
8 postsecondary education institution.

9 (2) "Project" shall mean improvements addressing deferred maintenance of  
10 public facilities, including the complete renovation of buildings with significant  
11 deferred maintenance needs; utility infrastructure; drainage, street, sidewalk, and site  
12 infrastructure; the demolition of public facilities; and any other improvements to  
13 address deferred maintenance needs. The term "project" does not include new  
14 buildings or building additions, other than minor additions required for code  
15 compliance or improved access to a public facility.

16 (3) "Evaluation committee" shall mean a group formed to assess the  
17 qualifications of potential contractors or professionals who may be hired for  
18 construction work on campus projects. The role of the committee is to evaluate and  
19 select the most qualified candidates based on specific criteria.

20 C. A postsecondary education institution may award job order contracts for  
21 deferred maintenance projects to a public facility if the work is of a recurring nature,  
22 but the delivery times are indefinite and the indefinite quantities and orders are  
23 awarded substantially on the basis of pre-described and pre-priced tasks.

24 D. The postsecondary education institution shall establish the maximum  
25 aggregate contract price when it advertises the request for qualifications pursuant to  
26 this Section. The institution may establish contractual unit prices for a job order  
27 contract through one of the following methods:

28 (1) Specifying one or more published construction unit price books and the  
29 applicable divisions or line items.

1                   (2) Providing a list of work items and requiring the bidders to propose one  
2                   or more adjustment factors or multipliers to be applied to the price book or pre-  
3                   priced as the price proposal.

4                   E. Before awarding any job order contract, the Louisiana Board of Regents  
5                   shall establish procedures for the development of plans, specifications,  
6                   qualifications, and other matters pertaining to the procedures for advertising,  
7                   reviewing, and selecting job order contractors.

8                   F. At minimum, the following provisions shall apply to firms and contractors  
9                   providing or performing construction work under job order contracts:

10                   (1) All engineering and surveying firms shall be licensed to perform services  
11                   by the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board.

12                   (2) All architectural firms shall be licensed to perform services by the  
13                   Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners.

14                   (3) All contractors shall be licensed by the Louisiana State Licensing Board  
15                   for Contractors.

16                   G. To ensure compliance with the established standards, all competitors shall  
17                   follow the qualification procedures set forth in this Subsection:

18                   (1) A selection process utilizing a request for qualifications procedure  
19                   including a public announcement procedure for solicitation of interested job order  
20                   contract competitors and a procedure for requesting a statement of qualifications  
21                   from qualified firms or terms through electronic announcement and communications.

22                   (2) The postsecondary education institution shall provide a request for  
23                   qualifications package to all job order contract competitors who submit a letter of  
24                   interest. All required information shall be identified in the request for qualifications  
25                   package and in the standard response forms. The response to a request for  
26                   qualifications package shall include a statement of qualifications that outlines  
27                   credentials and experience in areas of expertise specific to the project.

28                   (3) The completed response form, along with any other required information,  
29                   shall be submitted by the deadline specified in the request for qualifications package.  
30                   Any response that fails to meet all requirements outlined in the request for

1 qualifications package shall not be considered. False or misrepresented information  
2 provided in response to a request for qualifications package shall be grounds for  
3 disqualification.

4 H. The postsecondary education institution shall establish an evaluation  
5 committee to assess the responses to the request for qualifications, using at minimum  
6 the following criteria:

7 (1) The professional training and experience of the contractor and key  
8 personnel, specifically as it relates to the project under consideration.

9 (2) The capacity to complete the work within the specified time frame.

10 (3) Past performance on public projects of a similar nature to the one  
11 described in the request for qualifications.

12 (4) Any project-specific criteria that may apply to the project needs.

13 (5) Any other material deemed important by the institution.

14 I. A postsecondary education institution may award job order contracts to  
15 one or more job contractors in connection with each request for qualification.

16 J. The initial term for a job order contract shall not exceed two years. The  
17 postsecondary education institution may renew the contract annually for not more  
18 than three additional years.

19 K. An order for a job or project under a job order contract shall be signed by  
20 both the representative of the educational institution and the contractor. The job  
21 order may issued for either of the following:

22 (1) A fixed price, lump-sum contract based substantially on contractual unit  
23 pricing applied to estimated quantities.

24 (2) A unit price order based on the quantities and line items delivered.

25 L. The job order contractor shall provide payment and performance bonds,  
26 as required by law, based on the amount or estimated amount of any order.

27 M. A job order contract shall only be used to accomplish work for the  
28 postsecondary education institution that awarded the contract unless the request for  
29 qualifications for the job order contract specifically provides for use by other

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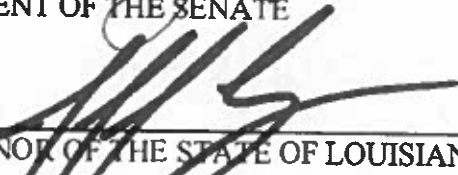
postsecondary education institutions under the supervision and control of the management board.


N. The provisions of the Section shall supersede any conflicting provisions of any other law, including, but not limited to the requirements of Chapter 10 of this Title.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 4, 2025

# ACT 35

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 72

La. State Law Institute  
PRINTER'S COPY  
NO EDITS  
Classification RS17

ENROLLED

BY SENATORS REESE, BASS, BOUIE, CONNICK, FOIL, JENKINS, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MIZELL AND WHEAT AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BRASS, CARRIER, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, FISHER, JACKSON, LARVADAIN, MARCELLE, OWEN AND SCHAMERHORN

## AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 17:3394.3(B) and the introductory paragraph of (C) and to enact R.S. 17:3394.3(A)(6) and (D), relative to the issuance of bonds; to provide relative to financing for certain capital improvement projects within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System; to provide for debt service payment obligation limits; to provide for a list of projects authorized to be financed from the issuance of bonds; to require match funds for such projects; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 17:3394.3(B) and the introductory paragraph of (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3394.3(A)(6) and (D) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3394.3. Authority of board to execute agreements related to the finance of capital improvements and enhancements; nonprofit corporation; administration and management of projects

A.(1) \* \* \*

**(6) Debt service payment obligations relating to all projects financed in accordance with this Section and for bonds issued on behalf of nonprofit corporations for facilities operated by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System and payable from state appropriations shall not exceed forty-three million nine hundred thousand dollars per year.**

B. For the purposes of this Part, the following projects and the projects set forth in ~~Subsection C~~ **Subsections C and D** of this Section shall comprise the entirety of public facilities and projects to be financed under the authorities of this Part and R.S. 17:3361 et seq. with respect to these projects. The dollar value listed,

1 plus an amount equal to fifteen percent, together with other requirements including  
 2 but not limited to costs of issuance, capitalized interest, if any, credit enhancement  
 3 and related costs, is the maximum amount that may be financed for each of the  
 4 following projects:

5 \* \* \*

6 C. The projects set forth in ~~Subsection B~~ Subsections B and D of this  
 7 Section and the following projects shall comprise the entirety of public facilities and  
 8 projects to be financed under the authorities of this Part and R.S. 17:3361 et seq.,  
 9 with respect to these projects. Each project set forth below shall require a no less  
 10 than twelve percent private match. No project shall be financed until all private funds  
 11 are available for that project. The dollar value listed for each project, plus an amount  
 12 equal to fifteen percent, together with other requirements including but not limited  
 13 to costs of issuance, capitalized interest, if any, credit enhancement and related costs,  
 14 is the maximum amount that may be financed for each of the following projects:

15 \* \* \*

16 D.(1) The projects set forth in this Subsection may, at the discretion of  
 17 the board, be financed in accordance with the provisions of Subsection A of this  
 18 Section. The board shall determine the dollar amount reasonably necessary to  
 19 complete each project, and such amount shall constitute the value of the project  
 20 for purposes of Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section.

21 (2) Any project financed pursuant to this Subsection shall require a  
 22 match of not less than twelve percent of the total project cost. No project shall  
 23 be financed until the match requirement has been satisfied. The fair market  
 24 value of donated property may be utilized as the source of matching funds.

25 Authorized projects shall include the following:

26 (a) Northshore Technical Community College-Hammond Area Campus.

27 (b) River Parishes Community College-Donaldsonville Campus.

28 (c) SOWELA Technical Community College-Lamar Salter Campus.

29 (d) Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College-Shreveport

30 Campus.

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(e) Louisiana Delta Community College-Bastrop Campus.

(f) Central Louisiana Technical Community College-Rod Brady Campus.

(g) Central Louisiana Technical Community College-Ward H. Nash Avoyelles Campus.

(h) South Louisiana Community College-T.H. Harris Opelousas Campus.

(3) The board shall periodically complete a facilities needs assessment to determine the condition of its facilities and its strategic priorities for facilities improvements and maintenance. The board may amend the list of projects to include any project it deems necessary or advisable to address facility needs or facilitate economic development.

(4) The board may direct or authorize the execution of facilities-related projects, including but not limited to projects authorized pursuant to R.S. 39:128, to be administered through the corporation.

(5) The scope of the projects may include the development, acquisition, purchase, construction, renovation, improvement, or expansion of facilities, including providing equipment, furnishings, fixtures, and other expenditures incidental or necessary in connection to the projects.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2025, whichever is later.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 4, 2025

# ACT 270

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 391

BY REPRESENTATIVES STAGNI, CHASSION, AND KNOX AND SENATOR JACKSON-ANDREWS

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Eds To: RS17 Pgs. 2

Note:

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:3902(B)(5)~~, relative to the evaluation of teachers and administrators; to prohibit the inclusion of test scores or data of certain students in the value-added assessment model; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3902(B)(5) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3902. Evaluation program; process

\* \* \*

B. The elements of evaluation and standards for effectiveness shall be defined by the board pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated for such purpose. Such rules and regulations shall require that, at a minimum, local evaluation plans contain the following elements:

\* \* \*

(5)(a) Measure of effectiveness. Fifty percent of such evaluations shall be based on evidence of growth in student achievement as determined by the board. Data derived from a value-added assessment model, as determined by the board, shall be a factor in determining evidence of student growth for grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is available and shall comprise thirty-five percent of the overall evaluation. For grade levels and subjects for which value-added data is not available and for personnel for whom value-added data is not available, the board shall establish measures of student growth. The model shall take

1 into account important student factors, including but not limited to special education,  
2 economic disadvantage, attendance, and discipline. ~~However, neither~~

3 (b)(i) Neither the value-added model nor the measures of student growth for  
4 grade levels and subjects for which value-added data are not available shall, in any  
5 given school year, include a test score or data of a student who has ten or more  
6 ~~unexcused absences, whether excused, unexcused, consecutive, or non-consecutive,~~ <sup>nonconsecutive</sup>  
7 in any school semester in that school year.

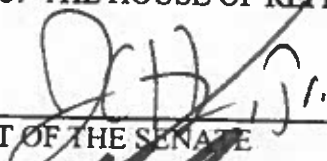
8 (ii) When a student has ten or more absences as provided for in Item (i) of  
9 this Subparagraph, the following shall not be considered factors in an evaluation  
10 relative to such absences: credit recovery, academic credit, and attendance credit.

11 (c) The board shall develop and adopt a policy to invalidate such student  
12 growth data for any teacher for any school year in which there is a natural disaster  
13 or any other unexpected event that results in the temporary closure of the school.

14 (b) (d) Each person being evaluated and his evaluator shall meet for the  
15 purpose of discussing the student learning targets of each student. Student learning  
16 targets not discussed in a meeting between a person and his evaluator shall not be  
17 used in the person's evaluation.

18 \* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  June 11, 2025

# ACT 129

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 51

BY REPRESENTATIVE YOUNG

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3991(H), relative to charter schools; to provide relative to the assets of certain charter schools; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3991(H) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3991. Charter schools; requirements; limitations; renewal; amendment; revocation; board membership

\* \* \*

H.(1)(a) Any assets acquired by a Type 1, 2, 3, 3B, or 5 charter school are the property of that charter school for the duration of that school's charter agreement.

(b) Any assets acquired by a Type 4 charter school are the property of the local school board.

(2) If a Type 1, 3, or 3B charter school is approved for conversion to a Type 2 charter school under the provisions of R.S. 17:3983(B)(2), all assets purchased with any public funds prior to such conversion shall remain the property of that charter school for the duration of that school's charter agreement with the state board.


(3)(a) If the charter agreement of any Type 1, 2, 3, 3B, or 5 charter school is revoked or the school otherwise ceases to operate, all assets purchased by the charter school with any public funds become the property of the chartering authority.

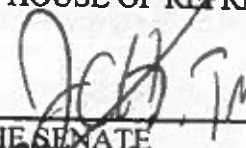
(b) Notwithstanding Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, if the charter agreement of a Type 2 charter school that was previously any other type of charter

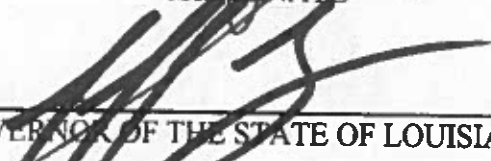
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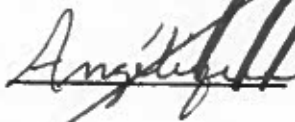
school is revoked or the school otherwise ceases to operate, any property owned by the local school board that was used by the charter school prior to such revocation or ceasing of operation remains the property of the local school board.

(4) Charter schools ~~are to~~ shall maintain records of any assets acquired with any private funds which remain the property of the nonprofit group operating the charter school.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:  Frel June 8, 2025

# ACT 413

2025 Regular Session

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 71

BY SENATORS FOIL, CLOUD, EDMONDS, MIGUEZ, SELDERS, STINE AND WOMACK

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:4001 and R.S. 24:514(I), relative to the Louisiana Charter School Start-Up Loan Fund; to expand the authorized uses and purposes of the fund; to rename the fund; to provide for the administration, investment, and disposition of monies in the fund; to establish eligibility criteria; to authorize the division of administration to enter into contracts and agreements; to authorize the reimbursement of administrative expenses; to provide for requirements and limitations; to require certain loan agreements; to provide for the terms of loan agreements; to provide for the transfer of assets in certain circumstances; to provide for audit requirements; to require eligible charter schools to submit a supplemental reporting schedule; to provide for definitions; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:4001 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§4001. Louisiana Charter School Start-Up and Expansion Loan Fund; creation; purpose; distribution

A.(1) The Louisiana Charter School Start-Up and Expansion Loan Fund, hereafter referred to as the "fund", is hereby created within the state treasury for the purposes of providing a source for funding ~~no-interest loans to assist both existing and new Type 1, Type 2, or Type 3 charter schools with initial start-up funding and for funding the administrative and legal cost associated with the charter school program~~ eligible charter schools to expand existing operations and facilities or establish new operations and facilities with initial start-up funding, including

1 funding for eligible costs associated with facility predevelopment, development,  
 2 and associated financing activities.

3 (2) For purposes of this Section, "eligible charter school" shall mean an  
 4 existing or new Louisiana public charter school authorized by either a local  
 5 school board or the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
 6 pursuant to R.S. 17:3971 et seq. An affiliated supporting organization as defined  
 7 in Section 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or a charter school's wholly  
 8 owned, nonprofit corporation real estate entity is eligible to apply for a loan or  
 9 facilitate the use of a loan for the benefit of an eligible charter school.

10 B. All monies appropriated to the fund and any grants, other donations, or  
 11 other sources of financial assistance directed to the fund shall be deposited into the  
 12 fund. Monies in the fund shall be subject to appropriation by the legislature and shall  
 13 be appropriated to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education division  
 14 of administration for allocation by the board as no-interest loans for the purposes  
 15 provided in Subsection D of this Section ~~or for other educational purposes as~~  
 16 ~~determined by the legislature.~~ Expenses incurred by the division of administration  
 17 in administering the fund shall be reimbursable from the fund. All unexpended  
 18 and unencumbered monies remaining in such fund at the end of each fiscal year shall  
 19 remain in the fund. The monies in such fund shall be invested by the state treasurer  
 20 in accordance with state law, and interest earned on the investment of these monies  
 21 shall be credited to the fund, after compliance with the requirements of Article VII,  
 22 Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the Bond Security and  
 23 Redemption Fund.

24 C.(1) The ~~state board~~ division of administration shall administer the use of  
 25 the monies appropriated from the fund and may enter in contracts and other  
 26 agreements in connection with the operation of the fund. ~~shall adopt rules in~~  
 27 ~~accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The adopted rules shall specify~~  
 28 ~~that state board approval of any Type 2 charter school proposal that includes within~~  
 29 ~~its budget a request for loan funding which complies with the provisions of this~~  
 30 ~~Section and details regarding how those loan funds are to be expended, shall~~

1       ~~constitute the approval of that loan amount. No additional loan application~~  
2       ~~paperwork shall be required. No Type 1 or Type 3 charter school approved by its~~  
3       ~~local school board shall be required to submit more than its approved charter~~  
4       ~~proposal and a detailed budget identifying how any loan funds are to be expended~~  
5       ~~and how such request complies with the provisions of this Section. The state board~~  
6       ~~may reject any such request which does not comply with terms of this Section. Such~~  
7       ~~rules shall also note that any loan funding may be used only to purchase tangible~~  
8       ~~items such as equipment, technology, instructional materials, and facility acquisition,~~  
9       ~~upgrade, and repairs. Such equipment or other items shall become the property of the~~  
10       ~~state if the loan is not fully repaid by virtue of the school ceasing to operate during~~  
11       ~~the three years of automatic loan repayment as noted in Paragraph (3) of this~~  
12       ~~Subsection.~~

13               ~~(2) Loans shall be made only to Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3 charter schools~~  
14       ~~and shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars to pay for charter school start-up~~  
15       ~~and early operating expenses.~~

16               **(2) The division of administration, in consultation with the State Board**  
17       **of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall adopt rules in accordance with**  
18       **the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Section.**  
19       **The rules shall include but not be limited to the following:**

20               **(a) Charter school eligibility requirements.**

21               **(b) Processing procedures for loans and a loan application that includes**  
22       **a per pupil funding calculation.**

23               **(c) Security and collateral requirement provisions.**

24               **(d) Terms of the loan agreement, including the manner of execution,**  
25       **repayment schedule, redemption features, the maximum principal amount of**  
26       **the obligation, the maximum interest rate to be incurred or borne by the**  
27       **obligation, the maximum repayment term of the loan which shall not exceed the**  
28       **term of the charter agreement, and default provisions.**

29               **(e) Provisions defining eligible costs to include predevelopment costs of**  
30       **construction prior to construction, such as property or land acquisition.**

1 feasibility and site studies, design and engineering fees, legal costs, permitting,  
2 review, and inspection fees, surveys, utility assessments, financing costs and  
3 other eligible project costs as determined by the division of administration.

4 (f) Provisions defining development costs to include the costs of  
5 construction, labor and materials, site acquisition, construction administration,  
6 financing, equipment, demolition, infrastructure, required off-site  
7 improvements, and other related costs as determined by the division of  
8 administration.

9 (g) Provisions defining eligible renovations to include material additions  
10 and renovations to existing buildings, general environmental abatement,  
11 systems, code and life-safety upgrades, and other types of renovations as  
12 determined by the division of administration.

13 D.(1) No loan shall be made without the approval of the division of  
14 administration. Loans shall be executed through a loan agreement between the  
15 division of administration and the eligible charter school and shall be used  
16 solely for the following purposes:

17 (a) To pay for charter school start-up and early operating expenses.

18 (b) To purchase tangible items such as equipment, technology, and  
19 instructional materials.

20 (c) Land acquisition and facility predevelopment and development costs,  
21 including construction hard and soft costs.

22 (d) Facility acquisition, upgrade, repairs, and other eligible renovations.

23 (e) Any other purposes approved by the division of administration that  
24 are related to the start-up, operation, expansion, or renovation of an eligible  
25 charter school.

26 (2) In order for an eligible charter school to qualify for a loan pursuant  
27 to the provisions of this Section, the eligible charter school shall comply with all  
28 of the following:

29 (a) The eligible charter school shall demonstrate sufficient financial  
30 resources and a detailed financial strategy for repayment of the loan.

1           **(b) The eligible charter school shall complete and submit the**  
 2           **supplemental reporting schedule as mandated in R.S. 24:514(D)(2) as part of its**  
 3           **annual financial reporting to the legislative auditor pursuant to R.S. 24:513 et**  
 4           **seq.**

5           **(3) An eligible charter school is limited to one loan from the fund, which**  
 6           **shall not exceed five million dollars per loan; however, once all of the principal,**  
 7           **interest, and any other obligations due under the loan agreement are paid in**  
 8           **full, the eligible charter school may apply for a new loan.**

9           **(4) No money lent as provided in this Section may be used to pay prior debts**  
 10          of the nonprofit corporation which formed the **eligible** charter school, any of the  
 11          natural persons principally involved in forming the **eligible** charter school, or any  
 12          former or current business or nonprofit venture of any such natural persons for any  
 13          purchase not related to the creation of the **eligible** charter school **or predevelopment**  
 14          **and development costs of the eligible charter school facility,** or to pay to members  
 15          of the immediate family of any such natural persons, or to make any investments.

16          ~~(3)(5)(a)~~ **Loans to qualifying eligible charter schools shall be repaid with no**  
 17          **interest and may be made by the authority for terms of up to three years. in**  
 18          **accordance with the terms of the loan agreement as approved by the division of**  
 19          **administration and the rules adopted pursuant to this Section. Nothing herein**  
 20          **shall limit the ability of a loan to be subordinated to a senior loan, to be paid off**  
 21          **prior to maturity, or to charge variable interest rates. All interest and principal**  
 22          **payments on loans shall be repaid and deposited back into the fund and made**  
 23          **available for additional loans.**

24          **(b) Loan repayment shall may** occur by having the state Department of  
 25          Education automatically reduce the last state payment or payments for each **eligible**  
 26          charter school by ~~one-third of the total loan amount during the initial three years of~~  
 27          **the loan term in accordance with the terms of the loan agreement.** The state  
 28          Department of Education ~~shall may~~ instead deposit those funds with the state  
 29          treasury in the Louisiana Charter School Start-up **and Expansion** Loan Fund.

30          ~~(4)(6)~~ The ~~state board~~ **division of administration** shall not knowingly

1 approve the loan portion of any Type 2 eligible charter school's budget proposal if  
 2 the background checks required by the state board reveals that any person principal  
 3 to the charter school proposal has been convicted of any felony related to  
 4 misappropriation of funds or theft.

5 (7)(a) If the charter agreement of any eligible charter school is revoked  
 6 or the school ceases to operate during the term of the loan agreement and the  
 7 loan is not fully repaid, all cash assets, equipment, property, facilities or other  
 8 physical assets purchased or constructed with loan funds shall be transferred  
 9 in accordance with the loan agreement and the rules adopted by the division of  
 10 administration.

11 (b) The state may, by suit, action, mandamus, or other proceedings,  
 12 protect and enforce any rights to assets or security provided in connection with  
 13 a loan agreement authorized pursuant to this Section.

14 E. Eligible charter schools shall comply with applicable laws related to  
 15 public bids for the erection, construction, alteration, improvement, or repair of  
 16 a public facility or immovable property pursuant to R.S. 17:3996(B)(19).

17 F. The division of administration shall submit an annual report to the  
 18 legislature, on or before December thirty-first, relative to fund activities for the  
 19 prior fiscal year, including but not limited to the following:

20 (1) The number of loan applications filed in the preceding year.

21 (2) The number of loans executed in the preceding year, the amounts  
 22 loaned to each eligible charter school, and the total amount of loan funds  
 23 expended in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

24 (3) The collection rate of the loans.

25 (4) The balance of the fund at the time such report is submitted and the  
 26 viability of the fund at that time.

27 (5) An evaluation of financial accountability measures and the  
 28 effectiveness of the loan program.

29 ~~Section 2. R.S. 24:514(I) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:~~

30 §514. Sworn annual financial statements; actuarial valuations; examinations

\* \* \*

1  
2 I.(1) The annual financial statements of city, parish, and other local public  
3 school boards shall be accompanied by such schedules of performance and statistical  
4 data as may be developed by the legislative auditor and legislative staff, with  
5 assistance from the state Department of Education, and approved by the House  
6 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education. Such performance  
7 and statistical data shall be the subject of assurances provided as part of the financial  
8 statement audits of local school boards to ensure that the information is complete and  
9 accurate. The assurances provided on such performance and statistical data shall be  
10 used for reporting to the legislature by the Department of Education. As an integral  
11 part of the legislative auditor's annual audit of the financial statements of the state  
12 of Louisiana, he shall review the Department of Education's compilation of the  
13 performance and statistical data, as reported by the local school boards, within the  
14 annual financial and statistical report of the department.

15 (2) The annual financial statements of eligible charter schools receiving  
16 loans as provided in R.S. 17:4001 shall be accompanied by a supplemental  
17 schedule developed by the legislative auditor, which shall include but not be  
18 limited to the following:

19 (a) Details on the approved loan, including total amounts of the loan,  
20 payments made, and outstanding balances.

21 (b) The amount expended on tangible items such as equipment,  
22 technology, and instructional materials.

23 (c) The amount expended on land acquisition and facility  
24 predevelopment and development costs, including construction hard and soft  
25 costs.

26 (d) The amount expended on facility acquisition, upgrade, repairs, and  
27 other eligible renovations.

28 (e) The amount expended for any other purposes approved by the  
29 division of administration that are related to the start-up, operation, expansion,  
30 or renovation of the eligible charter school.

SB NO. 71

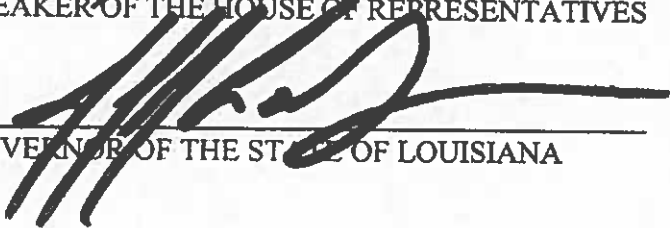
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Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025

# ACT 347

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 77

BY REPRESENTATIVES TURNER, ADAMS, BAGLEY, BERAULT, BUTLER, CARRIER, CHASSION, FREIBERG, HORTON, ILLG, KERNER, MACK, SCHLEGEL, AND THOMPSON AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, FOIL, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, MIGUEZ, MORRIS, MYERS, PRICE, REESE, AND SELDERS

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Ed's To: RS 17 Pgs. 2, 4, 6, 8

Note: - MERGE w/ ACT 356

- NOTE §§ 2+3

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5002(A), (E)(1) and (3), and (G), 5024(B)(1), 5025(introductory paragraph), 5029(B)(3)(b)(ii) and (iii) and (D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 5041(introductory paragraph), (1)(c), and (4), and 5043(1) and to enact R.S. 17:5002(I) and 5024(A)(1)(e), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to create a new program award level; to provide a definition of tuition for certain program purposes; to provide for an additional test for purposes of determining initial award eligibility; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5002(A), (E)(1) and (3), and (G), 5024(B)(1), 5025(introductory paragraph), 5029(B)(3)(b)(ii) and (iii) and (D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 5041(introductory paragraph), (1)(c), and (4), and 5043(1) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:5002(I) and 5024(A)(1)(e) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5002. Awards and amounts

A.(+) A student shall be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, Honors, Excellence, or TOPS-Tech Award based on his academic achievement.

~~(2) The award amount shall be as provided in Subsection B or D of this Section unless the legislature, by law, increases the award amount.~~

\* \* \*

1 E.(1) No student shall be eligible for tuition payment pursuant to this Section  
 2 for the Opportunity Award, the Performance Award, or the Honors Award, or the  
 3 Excellence Award for more than eight semesters or an equivalent number of units  
 4 in an eligible institution which operates on a schedule based on units other than  
 5 semesters, unless an extension is granted by the administering agency in accordance  
 6 with its rules.

7 \* \* \*

8 (3)(a) Any student receiving an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors, or  
 9 Excellence Award who successfully completes an academic undergraduate degree  
 10 in less than the eight semesters or its equivalent of award benefits provided by this  
 11 Subsection shall be eligible to continue to receive all applicable award benefits, in  
 12 accordance with the limitations as specified in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph,  
 13 for any remaining semester or semesters or the equivalent thereof of eligibility not  
 14 used to obtain the undergraduate degree if the student pursues a postgraduate  
 15 academic degree at an eligible institution and the student continues to meet all  
 16 academic and other requirements provided by this Section and by rule of the  
 17 administering agency for continued receipt of the award as an undergraduate except  
 18 as such requirements, including requirements provided by this Section for  
 19 undergraduate students, may be modified by the administering agency as necessary  
 20 to apply such requirements to postgraduate study.

21 (b) In developing rules to implement this Paragraph, the administering  
 22 agency shall establish reasonable ~~time-lines~~ <sup>timelines</sup> and deadlines for receipt of any  
 23 information required to implement this Paragraph both for current and subsequent  
 24 students receiving Opportunity, Performance, or Honors, or Excellence awards and  
 25 for any student previously receiving such an award who successfully completed an  
 26 academic undergraduate degree in less than eight semesters. Such rules shall also  
 27 provide for appropriate notice to all such students of the ~~time-lines~~ <sup>timelines</sup>, deadlines, and  
 28 rules governing implementation of this Paragraph.

29 (c) The amount of the award benefits as provided for in Subparagraph (a) of  
 30 this Paragraph shall not exceed the amounts determined by the administering agency

1 to equal the tuition charged for the postgraduate study or for undergraduate full-time  
2 enrollment charged by the highest cost public college or university in the state,  
3 whichever amount is less.

4 \* \* \*

5 G. In lieu of the payment of tuition as provided in this Section, any student  
6 participating in the program provided by R.S. 29:36.1 for persons serving in the  
7 Louisiana National Guard shall receive the tuition exemption as provided therein.  
8 In addition to any other payments provided for by R.S. 29:36.1:

9 (1) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this  
10 Section Chapter for receipt of an Opportunity Award or a TOPS-Tech Award, the  
11 state shall pay on behalf of such student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester  
12 or six hundred dollars per academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and  
13 other instructional materials.

14 (2) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this  
15 Section Chapter for receipt of a Performance Award, the state shall pay on behalf of  
16 the student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per  
17 academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional  
18 materials plus the sum of four hundred dollars per semester or eight hundred dollars  
19 per academic year for other educational expenses as defined by the administering  
20 agency.

21 (3) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this  
22 Section Chapter for receipt of an Honors Award, the state shall pay on behalf of the  
23 student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per  
24 academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional  
25 materials plus the sum of eight hundred dollars per semester or one thousand six  
26 hundred dollars per academic year for other educational expenses as defined by the  
27 administering agency.

28 (4) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this  
29 Chapter for receipt of an Excellence Award, the state shall pay on behalf of the  
30 student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per

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ENROLLED

academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional materials plus the sum of one thousand dollars per semester or two thousand dollars per academic year for other educational expenses as defined by the administering agency.

\* \* \*

I.(1) Any student who is eligible for an Excellence Award pursuant to this Chapter and who has enrolled in any public college or university in this state shall be awarded by the state either an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition charged by the public college or university or twelve thousand dollars, whichever is less.

(2) Any student who is eligible for an Excellence Award pursuant to this Chapter and who has enrolled in any independent college or university in this state that is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and that is accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education to pursue an academic degree, shall be awarded by the state either an amount determined by the administering agency equal to the tuition charged by the independent college or university or eight thousand five hundred dollars, whichever is less.

(3) For purposes of this Subsection, "tuition" means the annual resident tuition and fees charged by the institution as reported in the Board of Regents annual mandatory tuition and fees survey.

\* \* \*

§5024. Academic requirements

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

\* \* \*

(v) (e) For an Excellence Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50.

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\* \* \*

B.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, a student shall earn the following minimum test scores for the respective awards:

(a) For an Opportunity Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least equal to or higher than the state's average composite score, truncated to a whole number, reported for the prior year but never less than twenty or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test, or on the SAT, or the Classic Learning Test.

(b) For a Performance Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT of twenty-three or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test, ~~or on the SAT,~~ or the Classic Learning Test.

(c) For an Honors Award, a score of twenty-seven or higher on the 1990 version of the ACT or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test, ~~or on the SAT,~~ or the Classic Learning Test.

(d) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a composite score on the specified ACT of seventeen or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test, ~~or on the SAT,~~ or the Classic Learning Test. The student may, as an alternative requirement, have attained a silver level score on the assessments of the ACT WorkKeys system.

(e) For an Excellence Award, a score of thirty-one or higher on the 1990 version of the ACT or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test, the SAT, or the Classic Learning Test.

\* \* \*

§5025. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, Honors, Excellence Awards

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or Honors,~~ or Excellence Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

\* \* \*

§5029. Alternative initial eligibility requirements

\* \* \*

B. A student who completes a home study program shall be eligible to receive an award pursuant to this Chapter if each of the following conditions is met:

\* \* \*

(3)

\* \* \*

(b)

\* \* \*

(ii) For a student qualifying for an initial TOPS-Tech or Opportunity Award for the 2008-2009 award year or thereafter pursuant to this Subsection, the student shall have a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least two points higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test, or on the SAT, or the Classic Learning Test.

(iii) For a student qualifying for an initial Performance, or Honors, or Excellence Award for the 2008-2009 award year or thereafter pursuant to this Subsection, the student shall have a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least one point higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test, or on the SAT, or the Classic Learning Test.

\* \* \*

D.(1) Beginning with the 2004-2005 award year, a student who does not graduate from high school or complete a home study program shall be eligible to receive an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant to this Chapter and a student who does not graduate from high school or complete a home study program shall be eligible to receive an Excellence Award pursuant to this Chapter if each of the following conditions is met:

\* \* \*

NOTE ONLY: SEE § 307 THIS ACT ACT 359

1 §5041. Maintaining eligibility; Excellence, Honors, Performance, Opportunity

2 To maintain continued state payment of any amount pursuant to an  
 3 Opportunity, Performance, ~~or Honors,~~ or Excellence Award once enrolled in college  
 4 a student shall meet all of the following:

5 (1)

6 \* \* \*

7 (c) If at any time a student fails to maintain the cumulative grade point  
 8 average required for continuation in the program or, as of the end of any semester or  
 9 term during the academic year, fails to make steady academic progress as defined by  
 10 the administering agency, such student shall become ineligible for further payments.  
 11 Payments limited to those provided in R.S. 17:5002(B), regardless of whether the  
 12 originally granted award was an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or Honors,~~ or Excellence  
 13 Award, may be reinstated upon attainment of the grade point average required by this  
 14 Section for a student to maintain continued state payments once enrolled in college  
 15 and the standards for steady academic progress as defined by the administering  
 16 agency, provided that the student has maintained other continuation requirements  
 17 and the period of ineligibility did not persist for more than two years from the date  
 18 of loss of eligibility. If this two-year period is interrupted due to a student's active  
 19 duty service in the United States Armed Forces, the two-year period shall be  
 20 extended for a length of time equal to the student's active duty service, not to exceed  
 21 four years, unless the student reenlists in the United States Armed Forces and  
 22 maintains continuous active duty, in which case the period shall be extended for a  
 23 length of time equal to the student's active duty service; or unless the student is  
 24 granted an exception for cause by the administering agency.

25 \* \* \*

26 (4)(a) For students qualifying to receive a Performance, ~~or an Honors,~~ or  
 27 Excellence Award, have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 on a 4.00  
 28 scale at the end of each academic year.

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(b) However, if at any time an otherwise eligible student receiving a Performance, ~~Award or an Honors, or Excellence~~ Award in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter fails to have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale at the end of any academic year but has and continues to maintain a cumulative grade point average at least equal to that required by Paragraph (3) of this ~~Subsection~~ <sup>Section</sup> for continued participation by a recipient of an Opportunity Award, the student receiving a Performance, ~~Award or an Honors, or Excellence~~ Award shall remain eligible for state payments but only in the amount provided for in R.S. 17:5002(B) for a recipient of an Opportunity Award. The provisions of this Subparagraph shall apply to all students who receive state payments pursuant to a Performance, ~~Award or an Honors, or Excellence~~ Award, including all such students from the beginning of the program.

\* \* \*

§5043. Returning students

Notwithstanding any provision of this Chapter to the contrary, any otherwise qualified student who meets each of the following conditions and who enrolls as a first-time freshman in an out-of-state college or university, or beginning with the 2009-2010 academic year, first enrolls as a first-time freshman in an eligible college or university in Louisiana and subsequently enrolls in an out-of-state college or university, may use the program award provided for by this Section at an eligible college or university in Louisiana in accordance with this Section and other applicable provisions of this Chapter; however, the time period of award eligibility set forth in R.S. 17:5002(E) shall be reduced by an equivalent number of units as may be applicable for each semester or equivalent time period that the student is enrolled in an out-of-state college or university:

(1) The student has been determined by the administering agency to meet the initial eligibility requirements established by this Section for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors, or Excellence Award.

\* \* \*

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.



# ACT 356

ENROLLED

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION AND KNOX

La. State Law Institute  
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Eds To: RS 17 Fgs. 1

Note: -MERGE w/ ACT 347  
-NOTE § 2

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5024(A)(1), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to require schools to use a ten-point grading scale to assign grades used to calculate the minimum grade point average for initial qualification for a program award; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5024(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5024. Academic requirements

A.(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

(a) (i) For an Opportunity Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

(b) (ii) For a Performance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25.

(c) (iii) For an Honors Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50.

(d) (iv) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

[(v) INSERT FROM ACT 347 PG. 4]

(b) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year and for subsequent school years thereafter, each school shall use the ten-point grading scale provided for in R.S. 17:184 for the purpose of assigning grades used in the calculation of the minimum

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grade point average required by Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph regardless of whether the school uses a different grading scale for other purposes. The provisions of this Subparagraph shall apply to public schools and nonpublic schools approved in accordance with R.S. 17:11.

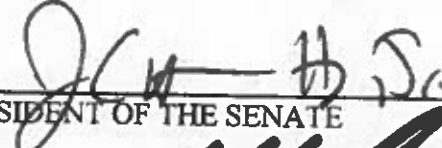
\* \* \*


Section 2. All nonpublic schools that did not implement a ten-point grading scale in the 2024-2025 school year and submitted grades for students graduating in that school year prior to the effective date of this Act shall recalculate and resubmit recertified grades for any graduate with a cumulative grade point average of less than 3.50. The recalculation shall use the ten-point grading scale as required by R.S. 17:5024(A)(1) as amended and reenacted by this Act, and the nonpublic schools shall submit the recertified grades to the state Department of Education not later than August 31, 2025. The recalculation shall apply to courses in the Opportunity, Performance, and Honors or TOPS-Tech core curricula that were taken in the 2024-2025 school year by any graduating student applying for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students award. The recalculation shall use the same percentage values that were originally assigned by the teacher when final grades were initially given.

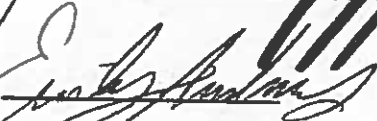
Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

[NOTE: R.S. 17:5024(A)(1)]

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 378

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILDER, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BRYANT, CARLSON, CARRIER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, CREWS, DEWITT, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, EGAN, FIRMENT, GALLE, GEYMAN, GLORIOSO, HORTON, JACKSON, JACOB LANDRY, MACK, MENA, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, SPELL, TARVER, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, TURNER, VENTRELLA, AND WILEY AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, MIZELL, STINE, AND WOMACK

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~~AN ACT~~

To amend and reenact R.S. ~~17:5029(B)(2)~~ and (3)(a) and (b)(ii) and (iii), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to provide relative to the alternate eligibility requirements for students who complete approved home study programs; to lower the minimum ACT score such students must attain for initial qualification for an award; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5029(B)(2) and (3)(a) and (b)(ii) and (iii) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5029. Alternative initial eligibility requirements

\* \* \*

B. A student who completes a home study program shall be eligible to receive an award pursuant to this Chapter if each of the following conditions is met:

\* \* \*

(2) The student meets the requirements of R.S. 17:5022, 5023, 5024(B)(1), 5027, and 5028.

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(3)(a) ~~Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph,~~ For a student qualifying for an initial program award prior to the 2005-2006 award year, the student has a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least three points higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

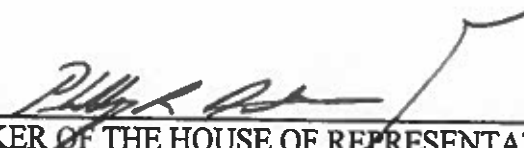
(b)

\* \* \*

(ii) For a student qualifying for an initial TOPS-Tech or Opportunity Award for the 2008-2009 award year ~~or thereafter~~ through the 2024-2025 award year pursuant to this Subsection, the student shall have a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least two points higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.


(iii) For a student qualifying for an initial Performance or Honors Award for the 2008-2009 award year ~~or thereafter~~ through the 2024-2025 award year pursuant to this Subsection, the student shall have a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least one point higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

\* \* \*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED:   
June 20, 2025