
DIGEST

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Downs

HB No. 1491

Abstract: Relative to TOPS, provides that beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, certain students must have successfully completed at least 19 units of a specified high school core curriculum to be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award.

Relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS):

Present law provides that beginning with the 2007-2008 school year and thereafter, a student who graduates from a La. public high school or a state-approved nonpublic high school must have successfully completed at least 17-½ units of specified course work which constitutes a core curriculum.

Proposed law, relative to the high school core curriculum for such students, provides instead that the 17-½ unit requirement is applicable to students beginning with the 2007-2008 school year through the 2012-2013 school year. Provides additionally that beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, such students must have successfully completed at least 19 units of the core curriculum.

Relative to the high school core curriculum for such students:

Present law provides that a student must have one unit in Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, or a comparable advanced math.

Proposed law retains the one unit requirement for students through the 2012-2013 school year. Increases the requirement to two units beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter.

Present law provides that a student must have one unit in Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physical Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, Physics, Physics II, Physics for Technology or Agriscience I and II (both for one unit).

Proposed law retains the one unit requirement for students through the 2012-2013 school year. Increases the requirement to two units beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter.

Present law provides that a student must have one unit in World History, Western Civilization or World Geography.

Proposed law retains the one unit requirement for students through the 2012-2013 school year. Increases the requirement to two units beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter.

Present law provides that a student must have ½ unit in Computer Science, Computer Literacy, or Business Computer Applications. Permits a student to substitute for this requirement at least ½ unit of an elective course related to computers that is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or to substitute ½ unit from among the other core curriculum subjects.

Proposed law retains present law except to specify that present law shall not be applicable to any student who graduates during the 2013-2014 school year or thereafter.

Present law provides that for students who graduate during the 2007-2008 school year and thereafter, the student must have at least one unit as an elective from among certain math or science subjects.

Proposed law retains present law except to specify that it is applicable to students through the 2012-2013 school year.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(1)(e)(intro. para.), (iii),(vi), (viii), (xii), and (xiii))