

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 207

2025 Regular Session

Carter

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

SECONDARY EDUCATION. Requires all public high schools students to have access to available vocational and technical courses.

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Adds Course Choice providers as an available option for public schools that do not provide vocational and technical education courses.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

SB 207 Reengrossed

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Present law provides for a career diploma as an option in high schools and consists of a career major containing academic courses and modern career and technical studies.

Proposed law requires public high schools to provide students with the opportunity to enroll in available vocational and technical education courses.

Proposed law provides that, if a high school does not offer vocational and technical education courses, the governing authority of the school may enter into agreements to partner with any of the following to provide available vocational and technical education courses for students as required by proposed law:

- (1) Other public schools.
- (2) Two-year public postsecondary education institutions in La.
- (3) Nonprofit proprietary schools approved by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).
- (4) Course Choice providers.

Proposed law provides that proposed law does not supersede the Course Choice Program as provided in present law (R.S. 17:4002.1 et seq.), which authorizes high school students to take courses beyond their traditional school curriculum, including postsecondary education courses, and pursue internships with private companies.

Proposed law provides that, if the high school's approved mission or curriculum model does not align with providing vocational and technical education courses, the governing authority of the school may request a waiver from BESE for the requirement of proposed law to provide students with the opportunity to enroll in available vocational and technical education courses.

Proposed law prohibits a student from being assessed a course fee when the local education agency receives career development funds in the minimum foundation program for such course.

Proposed law requires public high schools to advise students of the availability of the TOPS Tech Early Start Award as provided in present law (R.S. 17:5081) for eligible students and to provide information on the eligibility criteria of the award.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 17:183.4 and 3996(B)(4))