SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 121

2025 Regular Session

Selders

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides for mental health screenings in schools. (8/1/25)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

- 1. Authorizes rather than require school boards to offer mental health screenings.
- 2. Requires LDH to select mental health screening tools rather than a screener and provide the tools rather than the screener to school boards.
- 3. Prohibits schools and vendors from collecting metadata when conducting screenings.
- 4. Requires schools to identify the screening tool being used and include this information on the parental consent form with information on how to access the tool on the school or district's website.
- 5. Requires each school under a boards jurisdiction to comply with the provisions of proposed law if the board offers screenings.
- 6. Make <u>proposed law</u> prohibition on using screen results to make certain decisions applicable to other local public school board, in addition to city and parish school boards.
- 7. Deletes language that requires schools conduct mental health screenings pursuant to proposed law beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

	DIGEST	
SB 121 Reengrossed	2025 Regular Session	Selders

Proposed law:

- (1) Authorizes public school boards to offer mental health screenings for all students in grades K-12 during the first semester of the school year.
- (2) Requires each school under a school boards jurisdiction to comply with the provisions of proposed law if the school board offers such screenings.
- (3) Requires schools to notify parents (and students who have reached the age of majority or are emancipated minors) of the screenings and the option to consent in writing; requires schools to identify the screening tool being used and include this information on the parental consent form with information on how to access the tool on the school or district's website.
- (4) Requires schools to provide notification if the screening results indicate a potential mental health condition and to provide a list of available resources.
- (5) Requires the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to select mental health screening tools and provide them at no cost to school boards.
- (6) Provides that screening results are confidential and not subject to disclosure except to a student's parent or legal guardian (or student if he is of the age of majority or an emancipated minor); requires that the data collected be destroyed within 30 days.

- (7) Prohibits school boards from using screening results to make decisions relative to instruction, academic opportunities, or discipline.
- (8) Prohibits a cause of action against school governing authorities and employees relative to screening results.
- (9) Provides that <u>proposed law</u> is subject to the approval and funding of a school board.
- (10) Applies to all public schools, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:416.24 and 3996(B)(89))