2025 Regular Session

ACT No. 449

SENATE BILL NO. 207

BY SENATORS CARTER, EDMONDS, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MIGUEZ AND MIZELL AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, BRASS, CARLSON, EDMONSTON, FREIBERG, TERRY LANDRY, OWEN, TAYLOR AND YOUNG

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

1	AN ACT
2	To enact R.S. 17:183.4 and 3996(B)(4), relative to public high schools; to require that
3	certain public school students have access to vocational and technical education
4	courses; to provide for agreements; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 17:183.4 and 3996(B)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
7	§183.4. Vocational and technical education; partnering with other schools to
8	provide courses
9	A. All public high schools shall provide students the opportunity to enroll
10	in available vocational and technical education courses.
11	B.(1) If a high school does not offer vocational and technical education
12	courses, the governing authority of the school may enter into agreements to
13	partner with other public schools or with one or more two-year public
14	postsecondary education institutions in the state or with nonprofit proprietary
15	schools or Course Choice providers approved by the State Board of Elementary
16	and Secondary Education to provide available vocational and technical
17	education courses for the student as required in Subsection A of this Section.
18	Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to supersede R.S. 17:4002.1 et seq.
19	(2) If the high school's approved mission or curriculum model does not
20	align with providing vocational and technical education courses, the governing
21	authority of the school may request a waiver from the State Board of
22	Elementary and Secondary Education of the requirements of Subsection A of
23	this Section.

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1	(3) No student shall be assessed a course fee when the local education
2	agency receives career development funds in the minimum foundation program
3	<u>for such course.</u>
4	C. All public high schools shall advise students of the availability of the
5	TOPS Tech Early Start Award for eligible students and shall provide
6	information on the eligibility criteria of the award.
7	* * *
8	§3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements
9	* * *
10	B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
11	except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
12	charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
13	Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
14	exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
15	applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
16	the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:
17	* * *
18	(4) Vocational and technical education (R.S. 17:183.4).
19	* * *

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____