

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 536

BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

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

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to assessments administered to public school students including penalties for nonparticipation and reporting participation rates

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:10.1(G) and 24.4(L), relative to student assessment; to prohibit penalizing
3 a student for not taking state-required assessments under certain circumstances; to
4 provide relative to requirements for reporting rates of student assessment
5 participation for purposes of school and district accountability; to provide for
6 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:10.1(G) and 24.4(L) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §10.1. School and district accountability system; purpose, responsibilities of state
10 board

11 * * *

12 G. In reporting student participation rates for purposes of the school and
13 district accountability system, the state Department of Education, with the approval
14 of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall include all students
15 eligible to participate in the assessments administered pursuant to R.S. 17:24.4. For
16 purposes of making school performance calculations, the department, with approval
17 of the state board, shall exclude students for whom no assessment score is recorded
18 due to nonparticipation at the request of the parent as provided in R.S. 17:24.4(L),
19 but the number of excluded students shall not exceed five percent of the population
20 of eligible students.

21 * * *

§24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

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L.(1) A student who did not take the assessments administered pursuant to this Section shall not be penalized for failure to take the assessments if his parent submitted a written and signed request to the school to exclude the student from taking the assessments. For purposes of this Subsection, prohibited penalties include but are not limited to:

(a) Withholding credits toward graduation earned by a student or denying a student the ability to graduate or receive a diploma.

(b) Denying a student the opportunity to participate in an educational program or an extracurricular activity.

(c) Denying a student the ability to advance to the next grade level.

(2) At least thirty days prior to administering an assessment, each public school shall inform the parents of the students enrolled in the school of the right to exclude their children from taking the assessments.

(3) A student who is not taking the assessments shall be accommodated in a room separate from the students who are taking the assessments and shall be provided appropriate academic instruction.

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.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 536 Original

2017 Regular Session

Pierre

Abstract: Prohibits penalizing a student for not taking the state-required assessments upon written request of his parent; provides relative to requirements for reporting student participation rates by the state Dept. of Education relative to school and district accountability.

Proposed law prohibits penalizing a student for failure to take the state-required assessments if his parent submits a written and signed request to exclude the student from participating. Requires public schools to inform parents of their right to exclude their children from taking the assessments. Requires that students not taking the assessments be accommodated in a separate room from students taking the assessments and be provided appropriate academic instruction.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education to include all students eligible to participate in the assessments when reporting participation rates for purposes of the school and district accountability system. Further requires the department, when making school performance calculations, to exclude eligible students for whom no assessment score is recorded due to nonparticipation at the request of the parent; such exclusion shall not exceed 5% of the student population.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:10.1(G) and 24.4(L))