

2017 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 209

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH AND REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

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

CURRICULA. Provides for the Louisiana Early College Opportunity Act. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:3165.3 and 3168(7), and to repeal Subpart A-3 of Part III of Chapter 1 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:187.1 through 187.5, R.S. 17:2929 and 3137, relative to articulation and transfer of credits; to provide relative to the provision, eligibility, and costs of dual enrollment courses; to provide relative to the responsibilities of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Board of Regents, public postsecondary education management boards and local education agencies; to provide for reporting; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3165.3 and 3168(7) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§3165.3. Dual enrollment and early college opportunity**

**A. This Act shall be known as the "Louisiana Early College Opportunity Act".**

**B. The public postsecondary education management boards, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Board of Regents, and each local education agency shall collaborate and coordinate efforts to provide public**

1 postsecondary educational opportunities to eligible public high school students  
2 through dual enrollment courses.

3 C. Dual enrollment courses may include:

4 (1) Postsecondary education courses leading to credit that will transfer  
5 to a Louisiana public college or university and which will apply toward an  
6 associate's or bachelor's degree program. Such courses shall include English  
7 composition, mathematics, sciences, humanities, social sciences, and fine arts.

8 (2) Remedial and developmental courses to assist students in acquiring  
9 the skills needed to successfully complete entry-level college English or  
10 mathematics courses.

11 (3) Career and technical education courses aligned with the career major  
12 diploma option as provided in R.S. 17:183.1 through 183.5.

13 D. Each public postsecondary education management board shall:

14 (1) Establish academic eligibility requirements for a high school student  
15 to enroll in dual enrollment courses offered by an institution under its  
16 management and supervision.

17 (2)(a) Annually establish and publish maximum tuition costs which may  
18 be charged to a local education agency for dual enrollment courses delivered:

19 (i) On the campus of a public postsecondary institution.

20 (ii) Electronically by an instructor employed by the postsecondary  
21 institution.

22 (iii) On a high school campus taught by an instructor employed by a  
23 postsecondary institution.

24 (b) There shall be no charge to a local education agency for a dual  
25 enrollment course taught by an employee of the local education agency.  
26 However, a public postsecondary institution may charge the local education  
27 agency for any required textbooks and course materials.

28 (c) A postsecondary institution may not charge a local education agency  
29 an amount for a dual enrollment course that exceeds the amount charged to a

1 postsecondary student for a similar course.

2 (3) Require each institution under its management and supervision to  
3 publish a list of dual enrollment courses prior to the beginning of each semester.

4 The list shall include:

5 (a) Course name, course description, and academic eligibility  
6 requirements.

7 (b) Enrollment processes and deadlines.

8 (c) Course delivery method and location.

9 (d) A statement indicating that high school students shall not be charged  
10 for tuition, fees, and required textbooks and materials associated with a dual  
11 enrollment course.

12 E. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

13 (1) Require each local education agency to establish a process to:

14 (a) Identify high school students who are academically prepared for  
15 college courseware and identify high school students who are not on track to be  
16 academically prepared for entry-level college courses.

17 (b) Notify each identified student of the availability of such dual  
18 enrollment courses through the process of developing and annually updating  
19 student Individual Graduation Plans required pursuant to R.S. 17:2925.

20 (c) Provide access to dual enrollment courses at no cost to the student.

21 (2) Require the state Department of Education to assist local education  
22 agencies to identify state and federal funds which, in addition to local funds,  
23 may be used to support student participation in dual enrollment courses.

24 F. The Board of Regents shall ensure consistency of content and rigor  
25 across all courses, including dual enrollment courses, for which postsecondary  
26 education course credit is awarded.

27 \* \* \*

28 §3168. Reporting

29 The Board of Regents shall submit a written report to the Senate and House

1 committees on education, not later than September thirtieth of each year, on the  
2 status of statewide articulation and transfer of credit across all educational  
3 institutions in Louisiana as provided in this Chapter. Such report shall, at a  
4 minimum, include the following:

5 \* \* \*

6 **(7)(a) The number and percentage of high school students who take dual**  
7 **enrollment courses.**

8 **(b) The number and percentage of high school students who pass dual**  
9 **enrollment courses, including data by student subgroups.**

10 **(c) The number of postsecondary credits earned by students enrolled in**  
11 **dual enrollment courses.**

12 **(d) The number and percentage of high school students who take and**  
13 **pass CLEP examinations.**

14 **(e) Postsecondary degree attainment for students who did and did not**  
15 **participate in dual enrollment courses.**

16 **(f) The amount charged to local education agencies for dual enrollment**  
17 **courses.**

18 **(g) The estimated savings to the state and students attributable to dual**  
19 **enrollment courses.**

20 Section 2. Subpart A-3 of Part III of Chapter 1 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised  
21 Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:187.1 through 187.5, R.S. 17:2929 and 3137 are  
22 hereby repealed.

23 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
24 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
25 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
26 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
27 effective on the day following such approval.



Proposed law directs BESE to require the state Department of Education to assist LEAs to identify state and federal funds which, in addition to local funds, can be used to support student participation in dual enrollment courses.

Proposed law requires the BoR to ensure consistency of content and rigor across all courses, including dual enrollment courses, for which postsecondary credit is awarded. Additionally requires BoR to include the following dual enrollment information in its annual report to the house and senate education committees regarding articulation and transfer:

- (1) The number and percentage of high school students enrolling in dual enrollment courses.
- (2) The number and percentage of high school students who pass dual enrollment courses, including data by student subgroups.
- (3) The number of postsecondary credits earned through dual enrollment.
- (4) The number and percentage of high school students who take and pass CLEP examinations.
- (5) Postsecondary degree attainment for students who did and did not participate in dual enrollment courses.
- (6) The amount charged to LEAs for dual enrollment courses.
- (7) The estimated savings to the state and students attributable to dual enrollment courses.

Proposed law deletes obsolete provisions in present law relative to dual enrollment and articulation and transfer.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:3165.3 and 3168(7); repeals R.S. 17:187.1-187.5, R.S. 17: 2929 and 3137)