

2017 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 170

BY SENATOR BARROW

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

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY. Provides relative to the use of student assessment data for school accountability purposes for the 2016-17 school year for parishes in declared disaster areas. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(h), relative to the school and district accountability system; to  
3 provide relative to the use of student assessments in declared disaster areas for the  
4 2016-2017 school year; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(h) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for  
8 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish  
9 or city school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

10 A. \* \* \*

11 F.(1) \* \* \*

12 **(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (g) of this**  
13 **Paragraph or any other law to the contrary, for the 2016-2017 school year, the**  
14 **board shall examine the results of student assessments and school-level test data**  
15 **and make such allowances in calculating school and district performance scores**  
16 **and letter grades as the board deems necessary and appropriate in a parish**  
17 **located in a gubernatorially or presidentially declared disaster area.**

\* \* \*

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.

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The original instrument was prepared by Cheryl M. Serrett. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Jeanne Johnston.

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DIGEST

SB 170 Reengrossed

2017 Regular Session

Barrow

Present law requires that student assessments and achievement growth data be used in the school and district accountability system. Requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to collect results from student assessments for the 2016-2017 school year, but prohibits the use of the assessments for purposes of evaluating teacher performance or making placement decisions for fourth and eighth grade students. Further provides that BESE shall use statewide assessment results as a basis of distributing school and district letter grades but maintain the distribution of letter grades assigned as based on 2012-2013 test results, unless the performance of a school or district improved.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires BESE, for the 2016-2017 school year, to examine the results of student assessments and school-level test data and make such allowances in calculating school and district performance scores and letter grades as the board deems necessary and appropriate in a parish located in a gubernatorially or presidentially declared disaster area.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(h))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Deletes prohibition against BESE using test data, in 2016-2017 school year, in a manner that negatively impacts students, schools, or school districts in a parish located in a declared disaster area.
2. Requires BESE, for the 2016-2017 school year, to examine test results and school-level data for schools located in parishes in a declared disaster area and make allowances in the accountability system as deemed necessary.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes legislative bureau technical change.