

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 523

BY SENATOR MIZELL

SCHOOLS. Provides relative to MFP expenditures and reporting of certain education-related expenditure data. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7(2)(f) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(B)(45), relative to the
3 power and duties of the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to
4 provide relative to the expenditure of minimum foundation program formula funds;
5 to provide relative to the collection and reporting of certain education-related
6 expenditure data; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:7(2)(f) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3996(B)(45)
9 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §7. Duties, functions, and responsibilities of board

11 In addition to the authorities granted by R.S. 17:6 and any powers, duties, and
12 responsibilities vested by any other applicable laws, the board shall:

13 * * *

14 (2) * * *

15 (f)(i) In addition to any other requirements of the minimum foundation
16 program formula as most recently adopted by the State Board of Elementary and
17 Secondary Education and approved by the legislature, the state board, ~~beginning with~~

1 ~~the 2010-2011 school year and continuing thereafter~~, shall require each city, parish,
2 or other local public school board to expend funds generated by applying the
3 weighted factors **and other student specific allocations** contained in such formula
4 for **certain student characteristics, including but not limited to** at-risk students,
5 **English language learners**, career and technical education course units, special
6 education students other than gifted and talented students, and gifted and talented
7 students on personnel, professional services, instructional materials, equipment, and
8 supplies that serve the unique needs of students who generate such funds and to
9 submit annually a written report to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
10 Education that details the types of activities on which these funds were expended to
11 serve the needs of the weighted students at all schools that serve such students. The
12 information contained in such annual report shall be published on the state
13 Department of Education website in an easily understandable format.

14 (ii) ~~Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing thereafter, the~~
15 **The** State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall offer guidance and
16 technical assistance to each city, parish, or other local public school board in making
17 strategic fiscal decisions that promote improved student achievement. Such guidance
18 and technical assistance shall include but not be limited to the identification of best
19 practices in school finance that promote efficiency, economies of scale, and the use
20 of comparative data to improve spending and educational outcomes. **The State**
21 **Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall annually publish a report**
22 **that summarizes the technical assistance support provided to each city, parish,**
23 **or other local public school board on the state board's website and the state**
24 **Department of Education's website.**

25 (iii) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall annually
26 publish revenue and expenditure data, including but not limited to the allocation and
27 expenditure of funds generated by the minimum foundation program, local revenues,
28 and federal grants, for each city, parish, or other local public school board by district
29 and by school level, to the extent possible, in an easily understandable format on the

1 state Department of Education website. **The governing authority of each public**
 2 **school shall provide a link on its website to the state Department of Education's**
 3 **website page that provides the data prescribed in this Subparagraph.** Such data
 4 shall include but not be limited to comparative per pupil expenses reported by the
 5 school system for personnel, transportation, **unaccrued retirement liability for all**
 6 **employees, dues paid to outside organizations,** and other major categories of
 7 common expenditures as determined by the state Department of Education. Student
 8 membership counts and any weighted student counts generated by student need
 9 characteristics as provided in the minimum foundation program formula, calculations
 10 of the amounts of minimum foundation program funding allocated to each city,
 11 parish, or other local public school board through the minimum foundation program,
 12 amounts provided to and removed from calculations for each city, parish, or other
 13 local public school board including the source of funding shifts between city, parish,
 14 or other local public school boards, and expenditures of funds by school systems
 15 relative to the amounts generated by the weighted student characteristics and factors
 16 through the formula applied to city, parish, or other local public school boards shall
 17 also be reported.

18 (iv) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish
 19 a system for the uniform collection and reporting of all data required by this
 20 Subparagraph. **This system shall include indicators that track whether**
 21 **expenditures are made based upon federal laws or regulations, state laws, State**
 22 **Board of Elementary and Secondary Education policies or regulations, state**
 23 **Department of Education requirements, city, parish, or other local public school**
 24 **board policies or regulations, or by the decision of a school principal or his**
 25 **designee.**

26 (v) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, the term "city, parish, or other
 27 local public school board" shall mean the governing authority of any public
 28 elementary or secondary school.

29 * * *

1 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

2 * * *

3 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
4 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
5 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
6 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
7 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
8 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
9 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

10 * * *

11 **(45) Minimum foundation program and education-related expenditure**
12 **reporting, R.S. 17:7(2)(f).**

13 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
14 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
15 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
16 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
17 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 523 Original 2018 Regular Session Mizell

Present law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt a minimum foundation program (MFP) and adopt a formula for the equitable allocation of minimum foundation funds to each city, parish, or other local public school board. Additionally requires each city, parish, or other local public school board to expend MFP funds in the same manner as generated by the formula including the weighted factors for certain student characteristics. Further requires each city, parish, or other local public school board to provide a written report detailing how MFP funds were expended.

Present law requires BESE to offer guidance and technical assistance to each city, parish, or other local public school board in making strategic fiscal decisions that promote improved student achievement.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires BESE and the state Department of Education to annually publish a report on their respective websites that summarizes the technical assistance support provided to each city, parish, or other local public school board.

Present law requires BESE to annually publish revenue and expenditure data, including the

allocation and expenditure of funds generated by the MFP, local revenues, and federal grants for each city, parish, or other local public school board, in an easily understandable format on the state Department of Education's website.

Proposed law retains present law and also requires each city, parish, or other local public school board to provide a link on its website to the page on the state Department of Education's website that provides the required revenue and expenditure data.

Present law requires BESE to establish a system for uniform collection and reporting of data.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires that the system include indicators that track whether expenditures are made based upon federal laws or regulations, state laws, BESE policies or regulations, state Department of Education requirements, city, parish, or other local public school board policies or regulations, or by the decision of a school principal or his designee.

Present law exempts charter schools from all statutory mandates and requirements except those specifically listed in law.

Proposed law requires charter schools to report on their MFP revenues and expenditures and education-related expenditures as provided in present law and proposed law.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:7(2)(f); adds R.S. 17:3996(B)(45))