
DIGEST

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HB 848 Original

2018 Regular Session

Leopold

Abstract: Provides relative to student eligibility for free and reduced price meals as included in the definition of economically disadvantaged students applicable to all charter schools. Provides relative to requirements for the enrollment of economically disadvantaged students and other students in charter schools for the dependent children of military personnel.

Present law defines an economically disadvantaged student for purposes of the charter school law as a student who meets any of the following characteristics:

- (1) Is eligible for La.'s food assistance program for low-income families.
- (2) Is eligible for La.'s disaster food assistance program.
- (3) Is eligible for La.'s program for assistance to needy families with children to assist parents in becoming self-sufficient.
- (4) Is eligible for La.'s healthcare program for families and individuals with limited financial resources.
- (5) Is eligible for reduced price meals based on the latest available data.
- (6) Is an English Language Learner.
- (7) Is identified as homeless or migrant pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act and the Migrant Education Program within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- (8) Is incarcerated with the office of juvenile justice or in an adult facility.
- (9) Has been placed into the custody of the state.

Proposed law changes characteristic (5) to mean a student who is eligible to participate in the federal free or reduced price meals program but is not necessarily participating in the program. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law, relative to a charter school for the dependent children of military personnel, requires such school to enroll a specified percentage of students from the general population in the community where the charter school is located who are not dependent children of military personnel and who are economically disadvantaged and students with exceptionalities (excluding gifted or talented). Provides that such determinations are based on the Oct. 1st student membership count. Proposed law provides that such determinations shall be based on data available as of Dec. 1st of each year. Otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:3973(4)(e) and 3991(B)(1)(a)(ii)(intro. para.), (bb), and (cc))