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

SB 216 Reengrossed

DIGEST
2021 Regular Session

Robert Mills

Proposed law requires each teacher who teaches kindergarten through third grade and each principal and assistant principal of a school that includes kindergarten through third grade to successfully complete a foundational literacy skills instruction course that is approved by the state Department of Education (DOE).

Proposed law requires, not later than December 1, 2021, the DOE to develop a list of approved professional development courses that are based on the science of reading, designed for the professional development of teachers, and include information on instructing students regarding phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Proposed law requires teachers and administrators to successfully complete at least one of the approved professional development courses and provide documentation of the successful completion to their employing school. Further requires teachers and administrators who provide documentation of completion of an approved program within five years prior to 2023 shall be deemed in compliance.

Proposed law requires newly hired teachers and administrators to document successful completion of an approved program to their employing school within two years of their date of employment.

Proposed law requires, beginning May 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, that each city, parish, or other local school board report to DOE the number and percentage of teachers and administrators who have, within the past five years, successfully completed an approved course. Further requires the data to be reported on DOE's school progress profiles.

Proposed law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of the proposed law.

Proposed law provides that the provisions of the proposed law are subject to the appropriation of funds.

Present law provides for public charter schools and provides for requirements for those schools.

Proposed law requires public charter school to comply with provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that no state funds or obligated federal funds shall be used to implement the provisions of proposed law.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:24.10 and 3996(B)(59))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Adds provision that no state funds or obligated federal funds shall be used to implement the provisions of proposed law.