

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVES MARINO, BRASS, FREEMAN, HILFERTY, JEFFERSON,  
CHARLES OWEN, PRESSLY, AND SCHLEGEL

EDUCATION: Requires dyslexia education as a component of teacher education programs

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7.2(D) and to enact R.S. 17:7.2(A)(7), relative to teacher  
3 education programs; to require that such programs include dyslexia education; to  
4 provide relative to the powers and duties of the State Board of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:7.2(D) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:7.2(A)(7)  
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §7.2. Approved teacher education programs

10 A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and  
11 provide for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the State  
12 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, subject to the constitutional power  
13 and authority of the Board of Regents, the Board of Supervisors for the University  
14 of Louisiana System, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and  
15 Agricultural and Mechanical College, and the Board of Supervisors of Southern  
16 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, shall establish qualifications  
17 and requirements for the approval of teacher education programs from which  
18 graduates may be certified. The qualifications and requirements established by the

1 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for an approved teacher  
2 education program shall include but not be limited to the following:

3 \* \* \*

4 (7)(a) That the program include no less than three credit hours on teaching  
5 students with dyslexia. The coursework shall include but need not be limited to the  
6 following:

7 (i) An overview of the body of scientific work regarding dyslexia, including  
8 the history, epidemiology, and clinical presentation, including early clinical  
9 indicators of dyslexia and common, persistent classroom presentations.

10 (ii) An overview of evidence-based instruction for individuals with dyslexia  
11 including remediation of weaknesses, fortification of strengths, and common  
12 accommodations to help mediate between the two.

13 (iii) An introduction to the process of becoming a dyslexia practitioner or  
14 dyslexia therapist, pursuant to R.S. 17:392.2.

15 (b) The specific content of the coursework required by this Paragraph is  
16 subject to rules and regulations promulgated by the board in accordance with the  
17 Administrative Procedure Act.

18 (c) Each program shall designate a faculty member to teach the coursework.  
19 The faculty member shall be provided specialized training to provide such  
20 instruction to students. Upon implementation of this Paragraph, the governing  
21 authority of the program shall eliminate the requirement for three credit hours of  
22 other instruction.

23 \* \* \*

24 D. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit the provision by the  
25 board for certification by alternative means other than by completion of an approved  
26 teacher education ~~program.~~ program; however, alternative means shall include at  
27 least three credit hours on teaching students with dyslexia as provided in Paragraph  
28 (A)(7) of this Section.

1 Section 2. The provisions of R.S. 17:7.2(A)(7) as enacted by this Act and the  
 2 provisions of R.S. 17:7.2(D) as amended by this Act shall apply to students who enter a  
 3 teacher education program during the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 136 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Marino

**Abstract:** Adds dyslexia education to list of qualifications and requirements for teacher education programs.

Present law establishes certain requirements for a teacher education program to be approved by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for certification of graduates.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires that teacher education programs include at least three credit hours on teaching students with dyslexia and specifies content of such coursework. Requires the governing authority of each teacher education program to designate a faculty member to teach the specialized course work provided in proposed law. Requires the designated faculty member to receive specialized training to provide the instruction required by proposed law. Further provides that upon designation and training of the faculty member, the governing authority of the program is required to eliminate the requirement for three credit hours of other instruction.

Proposed law applies to the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter.

(Amends R.S. 17:7.2(D); Adds R.S. 17:7.2(A)(7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Add provision requiring each institution to designate a faculty member to teach the specialized course work provided in proposed law. Requires the designated faculty member to receive specialized training to provide the instruction required by proposed law. Further provides that upon designation and training of the faculty member, the governing authority of the program is required to eliminate the requirement for three credit hours of other instruction.