

2023 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 73

BY SENATOR ROBERT MILLS

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

CHILDREN. Provides relative to truancy and assessment and service centers. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact the heading of Chapter 15 of Title VII of the Children's Code and Arts. 791.4 and 791.5, relative to truancy and assessment and service centers; to provide with respect to monitoring, evaluation, reporting requirements, and operation; to provide for administrative costs; to provide that operations be administered by the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice; to provide for a change in the name of the program; to direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the name change in existing statutes and codes; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The heading of Chapter 15 of Title VII of the Children's Code and Arts. 791.4 and 791.5 are hereby amended and reenact to read as follows:

CHAPTER 15. TRUANCY ~~AND~~ ASSESSMENT ~~AND~~ SERVICE CENTERS

* * *

Art. 791.4. Monitoring

A. In order to determine the effectiveness of the program, ~~Louisiana State~~

1 ~~University, office of social services research and development, the Louisiana~~
 2 ~~Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice~~ shall
 3 develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation program subject to state
 4 funding.

5 B. The ~~Louisiana State University, office of social services research and~~
 6 ~~development, Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration~~
 7 ~~of Criminal Justice~~ may also develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation
 8 program for all parishes with truancy and assessment and service centers subject to
 9 state funding.

10 Art. 791.5. Reporting; operation

11 A. ~~On July first of each year beginning July 1, 2007, the office of social~~
 12 ~~services research and development, Louisiana State University, The Louisiana~~
 13 ~~Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice~~ shall
 14 report statistical data indicating the effectiveness of this program to the ~~appropriate~~
 15 ~~standing committees of the legislature~~ Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget
 16 for use by the ~~committees~~ committee in consideration of continuation or expansion
 17 of the program.

18 B. The provisions of this Chapter with respect to any parish which has a
 19 truancy ~~and~~ assessment ~~and~~ service center shall be operational subject to
 20 appropriation by the legislature to the Louisiana Commission on Law
 21 Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice.

22 C. The Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration
 23 of Criminal Justice may use appropriated funds to provide for the reasonable
 24 costs of administering the provisions of this Chapter and to provide funding for
 25 the local truancy assessment service centers.

26 Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to
 27 make the following changes:

28 A. Change any reference in the Children's Code and related provisions in the
 29 Revised Statutes from "Truancy and Assessment and Service Centers" to "truancy

1 Assessment Service Centers".

2 B. Change the reference in Children's Code Article 543(F)(10) from "Truancy
3 Assistance Service Centers" to "Truancy Assessment Service Centers".

4 C. Change the reference in R.S. 46:2758.2(B)(1) from "Truancy Assessment and
5 Service Centers" to "Truancy Assessment Service Centers".

6 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
8 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
10 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 Carla S. Roberts.

DIGEST

SB 73 Original

2023 Regular Session

Robert Mills

Present law authorizes the creation of the truancy and assessment and service centers program to prevent truancy.

Present law provides that truancy has long been demonstrated nationwide as a primary indicator of a path to juvenile delinquency and that early intervention has been shown as the key to correcting a propensity for destructive or criminal behavior.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the program title from "truancy and assessment and service centers" to "truancy assessment service centers".

Present law specifies that La. State University (LSU), office of social services research and development, is responsible for developing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation program under present law.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the developer and implementor of the truancy prevention program from the LSU office of social services research and development to the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice.

Present law provides that the LSU office of social services research and development is to report statistical data indicating the effectiveness of the truancy prevention program to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature for use by the committees in consideration of continuation or expansion of the program.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the agency that reports to the legislature from the LSU office of social services research and development to the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice and proposed law designates the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget as the legislative committee for purposes of reporting statistical data.

Proposed law provides that, subject to appropriation by the legislature, the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice may use appropriated funds

to provide for the reasonable costs of administering the truancy prevention program and to provide funding for the local programs.

Proposed law directs the La. State Law Institute to make technical changes to the program title in the Children's Code and the Revised Statutes.

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

(Amends Ch.C. Title VII, Ch. 15 (heading) and Arts. 791.4 and 791.5)