
DIGEST

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HB 412 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

White

Abstract: Establishes the Imagination Library of La. under the administration of the La. Educational Television Authority (LETA) for the purpose of encouraging reading and learning for young children and creates a fund for funding the program.

Proposed law establishes the Imagination Library of La. under the administration of LETA. Subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature, requires LETA to promote the statewide development of local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs; advance and strengthen local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs with the goal of increasing enrollment; develop community engagement and a public awareness campaign; receive monies appropriated to it for program administration; administer any local match requirements, which may be waived on a case-by-case basis, and coordinate the collection and remittance of local program costs; and provide an annual program report to the governor and legislature.

Proposed law authorizes LETA to work collaboratively with an organization that provides age-appropriate books to children ages birth to five years old on a monthly basis in implementing the program.

Proposed law creates the Imagination Library of La. Fund within the state for the purpose of funding the program. Provides that monies in the fund are subject to appropriation and available exclusively for use by the authority for the program. Provides that all monies appropriated by the legislature or designated to the fund through donation, gift, grant, or any other revenue shall be deposited in the fund; that monies in the fund shall be invested in the same manner as monies are invested in the state general fund; and that interest earned on investment of monies in the funds shall be credited to the fund.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:2508)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Make LETA's proposed law responsibilities subject to the appropriation of funds.
2. Authorize LETA to work collaboratively with a book-providing organization rather than

Friends of La. Public Broadcasting to implement the program.

3. Add that in addition to monies appropriated by the legislature, monies designated to the fund through donation, gift, grant, or any other revenue shall be deposited into the fund.
4. Change name of program and fund.