
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)]

HB 315 Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Charles Owen

Abstract: Provides relative to public school administration.

Present law (R.S. 17:264) authorizes the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to establish a "Distinction for Community Service" diploma endorsement program for high school students who perform community service. Proposed law retains present law but prohibits the following:

- (1) Students from receiving academic credit for community service.
- (2) Political activity from qualifying as community service for purposes of present law.

Present law (R.S. 17:351.1) provides relative to public review of textbooks. Requires that student editions of textbooks be made available online. Proposed law requires all editions of textbooks be made available online and in-person.

Present law (R.S. 17:381) authorizes BESE and school boards to accept donations for educational and literary purposes. Proposed law requires such boards to make details of such donations available on their websites.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:1942.1) requires BESE to submit an annual report to the legislative committees on education relative to school district compliance with special education requirements.

(Amends R.S. 17:264(A)(1), 351.1(B)(3)(d)(i), and 381; Adds R.S. 17:264(C) and 1942.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Remove the proposed law removal of requirement that BESE prescribe suitable teaching materials for instruction in free enterprise, an elective course for public high school students.
2. Remove the proposed law removal of authorization for sex education instruction to be offered in public elementary schools.
3. Remove the proposed law removal of authorization for sex education instruction to be

offered at times other than the regular school day.

4. Remove the proposed law requirement that the legislative education committees review the implementation of the activities of the Quality Science and Mathematics Council.
5. Remove the proposed law abolition of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline.
6. Remove the proposed law authorization for superintendents to waive instruction in adoption awareness, litter prevention and awareness, shaken baby syndrome, and parenthood education.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law:
 - a. That required each public school governing authority to report to the state Dept. of Education (DOE) relative to the implementation of present law requirement that cursive writing be taught in all public schools and that DOE submit a cumulative report to the legislature.
 - b. That removed present law requirement that BESE prescribe suitable teaching materials for Civics and Free Enterprise instruction required by present law in all public high schools.
 - c. That required a school board that accepts federal funds for programs offering sex education pursuant to present law to approve the funds annually in a public meeting at a time and place advertised by the school board at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
2. Add proposed law requirement that BESE report on school districts' compliance with special education requirements.