

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 327

BY SENATOR BARROW

SCHOOLS. Provides for mandatory mental health days for high school students under certain circumstances. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:226(C), relative to exemption from school attendance; to provide for  
3 excused absences under certain circumstances; to provide for proof related to the  
4 absences; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:226(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §226. Exemptions from compulsory attendance

8 \* \* \*

9 C. Children who are mentally stressed and may be suffering from  
10 anxiety and whose attendance in school may endanger their academic  
11 performance shall be allowed to be absent from school for not more than two  
12 days per semester. Upon the child's return to school, the parent must provide  
13 the school with the recommendation of a medical doctor or mental health  
14 professional with judgment or stigma. Any school work the child misses due to  
15 the mental health absence shall be made up before the semester ends.

16 Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be known and cited as the "Tonja Richard  
17 Law".

