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## DIGEST

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HB 762 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Bamburg

**Abstract:** Exempts students who attain certain scores on the English and math sections of the ACT from end-of-course testing and allows career diploma students to take WorkKeys or the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery in lieu of the ACT.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to implement the La. Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) with the approval of the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Provides for the administration of LEAP tests based on state content standards in English language arts, math, science, and social studies to students, at a minimum, in grades three through 11. Requires BESE to determine by rule the adequate test score to determine successful performance on LEAP tests. Factors measurements of growth in student achievement on LEAP tests into school and district performance scores assigned pursuant to the school and district accountability system and into the evaluation of teachers and administrators. Present administrative rule (BESE policy) provides for end-of-course assessments for high school students and sets the level of proficiency on these assessments required for a student to be eligible to graduate from high school.

Proposed law exempts, notwithstanding present law, a student who attains a minimum score as determined by BESE on both the English and math sections of the ACT from end-of-course testing requirements. Requires BESE to adopt rules for proposed law implementation, including:

- (1) The minimum scores on these ACT sections that a student must attain in order to be eligible for the exemption.
- (2) The measurement of growth in student achievement as measured by the ACT for students who are exempt from end-of-course testing for purposes of the school and district accountability system and the evaluation of teachers and administrators.

Present law requires a high school student pursuing a career diploma to take the ACT and allows him to also take the WorkKeys test. Requires BESE to develop a system of equivalent scores for the ACT and the WorkKeys test and to use a student's highest score for purposes of the school and district accountability system. Proposed law allows career diploma students to take WorkKeys or the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery in lieu of the ACT and applies BESE's obligation to develop such a system to all three of these tests for such purposes.

(Amends R.S. 17:183.3(B)(3); Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(g))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Add that BESE may administer a nationally recognized assessment statewide in lieu of end-of-course assessments.
2. Remove proposed law prohibition against requiring students to take the ACT.
3. Reinstate present law requirement that career diploma students take the ACT.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law authority granted to BESE to administer a nationally recognized assessment statewide in lieu of end-of-course assessments.
2. Add that students who attain certain BESE-set minimum scores on the English and math sections of the ACT are exempt from end-of-course testing requirements.
3. Authorize career diploma students to take WorkKeys or the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery in lieu of the ACT.