

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 352

BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK

STUDENTS: Provides relative to behavioral health services for public school students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:173(A)(2)(introductory paragraph), (c), (e), and (h) and (D),  
3 relative to behavioral health services for public school students; to provide for  
4 related policies adopted by public school governing authorities; to provide for  
5 definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:173(A)(2)(introductory paragraph), (c), (e), and (h) and (D) are  
8 hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §173. Behavioral health services for students

10 A.

11 \* \* \*

12 (2) Each public school governing authority shall adopt ~~and make available~~  
13 ~~to the public~~ a policy to implement the provisions of this Section. The authority  
14 shall make such policy available to the public by, at a minimum, posting it on its  
15 website and shall include it in its student handbook. The policy shall not create  
16 onerous requirements for behavioral health providers resulting in a delay or barrier  
17 to the provision of medically necessary services. The policy, at a minimum, shall  
18 provide that:

19 \* \* \*





be provided in a physical classroom, they be medically necessary, and adds an exception that services are required to be provided outside a physical classroom if it is medically necessary.

(Amends R.S. 17:173(A)(2)(intro. para.), (c), (e), and (h) and (D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Add exception to requirement that behavioral health services be provided in a physical classroom, providing that such services are required to be provided outside of the physical classroom if it is medically necessary.
2. Remove prohibition on a board certified behavior analyst virtually supervising a behavior technician administering services. Instead, prohibit any student, other than the student receiving services, from being recorded if supervision is virtual.
3. Remove proposed law definitions of "board certified behavior analyst" and "behavior technician".