
DIGEST

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HB 1128 Original

2026 Regular Session

Larvadain

Abstract: Provides relative to TOPS-Tech.

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a merit scholarship program for students who meet certain academic criteria in high school and other requirements. Provides for five award levels, including TOPS-Tech, based on high school academic criteria, including completion of a specific core curriculum, a minimum GPA on that core curriculum, and a minimum ACT score.

Present law provides that a student who is eligible for a TOPS-Tech award and who is enrolled in an eligible institution in an education program eligible for an award as deemed by the M.J. Foster Promise Program Advisory Council is required to receive an award equal to tuition charged by the institution during the 2016-2017 academic year. Proposed law instead requires La. Works to select qualifying education programs, uncouples award amounts from 2016-2017 tuition amounts, and adds fees to award levels.

Proposed law adds registered apprenticeships through a sponsor approved by La. Works and employment at a workforce provider approved by La. Works to eligibility for a TOPS-Tech award.

Proposed law requires the Bd. of Regents and La. Works to submit an annual report to the legislature relative to certain data from TOPS-Tech distribution and participation.

(Amends R.S. 17:5002(D)(1); Adds R.S. 17:5029(G) and 5068(F))