

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 885 (HB 1203)

2026 Regular Session

Edmonston

Parent-Driven Learning Microschools

New law defines a "parent-driven learning microschool" (microschool) as a voluntary association of parents who choose to group their children together, regardless of age, for educational or instructional activities conducted at mutually agreed-upon times and days, which may include compensated or uncompensated parents, tutors, or instructors for the purpose of providing a personalized learning experience for each student and which meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Students in multiple grade levels participate for part or all of the school week, regardless of the time of day, week, or month.
- (2) Instruction occurs in a home, community space, library, learning center, or other nontraditional educational setting.

New law provides the following:

- (1) If a building has met the occupancy requirements as a home, commercial establishment, or other classification of occupancy, then the use, rental, lease, or otherwise lawful possession of the building, whether in whole or in part, by a microschool shall not alter or change the zoning or occupancy classification of the building or subject the building to any additional building code requirements or fire safety regulations due to the fact that parents are making use of all or part of the building as a microschool.
- (2) No governmental agency shall take any of the following actions against a parent who participates in a microschool or against a microschool:
 - (a) Restrict or deny the use of the building by parents or children, regardless of age, for the same or similar purposes as provided in existing law (R.S. 13:5233.1), regardless of the day of the week, time, or number of hours of the day, or require compliance with existing law relative to early learning center licensing or with any other existing law in Title 17 of the La. Revised Statutes.
 - (b) Require that a microschool register or otherwise report to any governmental agency.
- (3) Nothing in new law shall be construed to modify, supersede, or otherwise affect the laws governing religious educational programs conducted in churches or other religious institutions as provided in existing law (R.S. 13:5233.1).
- (4) Nothing in existing law or new law shall be construed to supersede, limit, or diminish the rights guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, existing constitution (Art. I, §8), or existing law (Preservation of Religious Freedom Act, R.S. 13:5231 et seq.), all of which shall prevail in the event of any conflict with any provision of new law.

Early Learning Center Licensing

Existing law provides for the licensing of early learning centers by the state Dept. of Education and exempts certain entities from licensing requirements. New law adds an exemption for parent-driving learning microschools as provided in new law and religious education activities as provided in existing law.

Learning Pods

Existing law authorizes each public school governing authority to establish learning pods as an extension of any school under its jurisdiction. New law changes the term from "learning pods" to "public school learning pods".

New law directs the La. State Law Institute to make technical changes in existing law relative to learning pods to conform with new law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 8, 2026).

(Amends R.S. 17:4036.1(A) and (B); Adds R.S. 17:236.4 and 407.35(D))