

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 943 (HB 342)

2026 Regular Session

Knox

Existing law requires the state Dept. of Education, the Special School District, and local education agencies to establish and maintain regulations and procedures in accordance with existing law and federal law (IDEA) to ensure that students with exceptionalities and their parents are provided procedural safeguards for the provision of free appropriate public education by such agencies, including provisions for special education due process hearings.

New law adds that in all such hearings, the local education agency shall have the burden of proof, including the burden of persuasion and production, relative to the appropriateness of a student's program or placement or the appropriateness of the program or placement proposed by the agency. Provides that this burden shall be met by a preponderance of the evidence.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 17:1946(B)(3))