

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

HOUSE BILL NO. 22

BY REPRESENTATIVE CRANE

STUDENTS: Provides for applicability of provisions relative to the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of pupils within 30 days after the admission of any pupils entering school late in the session (Item #38)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2112(A)(1) and to enact R.S. 17:2112(C), relative to the
3 required time lines for conducting sight and hearing tests for certain pupils; to
4 provide for the applicability of the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of
5 pupils within thirty days after the admission of any pupils entering school late in the
6 session; to provide for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to
7 adopt rules relative to such requirement; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide
8 for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:2112(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:2112(C)
11 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §2112. Testing pupils' sight and hearing; testing for dyslexia; notice to parent or
13 tutor; report to state superintendent

14 A.(1) ~~Every~~ Except as otherwise provided in Subsection C of this Section,
15 every city, parish, and other local public school board, during the first semester of
16 the school year or within thirty days after the admission of any pupils entering the
17 school late in the session, shall test the sight, including color screening for all first
18 grade students, and hearing of each and all pupils under their charge, except those
19 pupils whose parent or tutor objects to such examination, as provided for in R.S.

1 17:156. Such testing shall be completed in accordance with the schedule established
2 by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The State Board of Elementary and
3 Secondary Education may convert the age equivalent as provided by the American
4 Academy of Pediatrics schedule to the academic year equivalent which corresponds
5 to that age.

6 * * *

7 C.(1) Effective for the 2005-2006 school year, the provisions of Paragraph
8 (A)(1) of this Section relative to the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of
9 pupils within thirty days after the admission of any pupils entering school late in the
10 session shall not be applicable.

11 (2) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education may adopt rules
12 effective for the 2005-2006 school year relative to the requirement for testing the
13 sight and hearing of pupils entering school late in the session.

14 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
15 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
16 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
17 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
18 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

Crane

HB No. 22

Abstract: Provides that, effective for the 2005-2006 school year, present law provisions relative to the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of pupils within 30 days after the admission of any pupils entering school late in the session shall not be applicable. Provides for State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules relative to testing of such students.

Present law (R.S. 17:2112(A)(1)) requires public school boards, during the first semester of the school year or within 30 days after the admission of any pupils entering the school late in the session, to test the sight, including color screening for all first grade students, and hearing of all pupils. Exempts from such testing any pupil whose parent or tutor objects to such testing as provided in R.S. 17:156 (which provides that no student shall be subjected to any physical examination or inspection if his parent or tutor objects). Requires that such testing be done in accordance with the schedule established by the American Academy of

Pediatrics. Allows the BESE to make certain conversions relative to the age equivalent as provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Proposed law retains present law except provides that, effective for the 2005-2006 school year, present law provisions relative to the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of pupils within 30 days after the admission of any pupils entering school late in the session shall not be applicable. Authorizes BESE to adopt rules effective for the 2005-2006 school year relative to the requirement for testing the sight and hearing of pupils entering school late in the session.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:2112(A)(1); Adds R.S. 17:2112(C))