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## DIGEST

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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))