

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 702

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

SCHOOLS/CHOICE: Provides relative to eligibility of kindergarten students for participation in the voucher program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:4013(2)(a), relative to the Student Scholarships for  
3 Educational Excellence Program; to provide with respect to eligibility of entering  
4 kindergarten students in the voucher program; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:4013(2)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §4013. Definitions

8 As used in this Chapter, unless otherwise clearly indicated, the following  
9 terms mean:

10 \* \* \*

11 (2) "Eligible student" means a student who resides in Louisiana, is a member  
12 of a family with a total income that does not exceed two hundred fifty percent of the  
13 current federal poverty guidelines as established by the federal office of management  
14 and budget, and who meets any one of the following criteria:

15 (a) Is entering kindergarten and ~~has enrolled in the local school system in~~  
16 ~~which the public school he would have otherwise attended is located~~ received a letter  
17 grade of "D" or "F" or any variation thereof for the most recent year pursuant to the  
18 school and district accountability system. ~~or in a school under the jurisdiction of the~~  
19 ~~Recovery School District. Each local school system or the Recovery School District~~

1 ~~shall conduct its annual kindergarten enrollment process and shall report such~~  
2 ~~enrollment to the department prior to the program enrollment process.~~

3 \* \* \*

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Edwards

HB No. 702

**Abstract:** Limits kindergarten student eligibility for the voucher program; provides that only kindergarten students who would have attended a "D" or "F" school are eligible.

Present law establishes a voucher program known as the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program.

Present law provides that, to be eligible for a voucher, a student shall reside in La., shall be a member of a family with a total income that does not exceed 250% of the current federal poverty guidelines, and who meets any one of several criteria.

Present law provides that an entering kindergarten student who has enrolled in the local school system in which the public school he would have otherwise attended is located or in a school under the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District is eligible for the voucher program.

Proposed law provides that an entering kindergarten student is eligible only if the public school he would have attended received a letter grade of "D" or "F" or any variation thereof, for the most recent year pursuant to the school and district accountability system.

Present law provides that each local school system or the Recovery School District shall conduct its annual kindergarten enrollment process and shall report such enrollment to the department prior to the program enrollment process. Proposed law removes present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:4013(2)(a))