
DIGEST

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Reynolds

HB No. 1205

Abstract: Provides relative to textbooks and other instructional materials.

Present law provides as follows relative to textbooks and other instructional materials:

- (1) Requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to prescribe and adopt school books and other materials of instruction, which it shall supply free of charge to the children of this state at the elementary and secondary levels out of funds appropriated therefor by the legislature in accordance with the requirements of Article VIII, Section 13(A) of the Constitution of La.
- (2) Requires the state superintendent of education to prepare the list of free school books and other materials of instruction for BESE adoption.
- (3) Requires that school books and instructional materials adopted accurately reflect the contributions and achievements of people of differing races and promote an understanding of the history and values of the people of the U.S. and La., including the free enterprise system, private property, constitutional liberties, democratic values, and traditional standards of moral values.
- (4) Requires BESE or the state Dept. of Education to assure that all school books and materials of instruction submitted for state adoption are thoroughly screened, reviewed, and approved as to their content by BESE and the local school board.
- (5) Requires BESE to adopt rules and regulations governing the use of school books and other instructional materials by schools, school boards, and local superintendents.
- (6) Requires BESE to establish rules and procedures for supplying school books and other materials of instruction for children participating in approved home study programs when available.
- (7) Requires that contracts with publishers for school books be awarded on a competitive basis and provides that such contracts contain specific provisions relative to termination rights, price controls and stability.

Proposed law refers to "textbooks" rather than "school books" or "schoolbooks" and otherwise retains all of the above present law. Also changes references to "school boards" to "public school

governing authorities".

(Amends R.S. 17:7(4), 8(A)(1)(a), (B), and (C), 22(2)(e), 351(A), (B), and (C)(1), and 352(A)(1))