

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 326

BY REPRESENTATIVE WESLEY BISHOP

STUDENTS: Authorizes surveys of public school students in Orleans Parish regarding risk behaviors

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:281(A)(2), relative to surveys of students in Orleans Parish  
3 schools; to authorize public school governing authorities in Orleans Parish to allow  
4 students to be surveyed about their risk behaviors; and to provide for related matters.

5 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
6 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
7 Louisiana.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:281(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §281. Instruction in sex education

11 A.

12 \* \* \*

13 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, for the purposes of this Section, "sex  
14 education" shall mean the dissemination of factual biological or pathological  
15 information that is related to the human reproduction system and may include the  
16 study of sexually transmitted disease, pregnancy, childbirth, puberty, menstruation,  
17 and menopause, as well as the dissemination of factual information about parental  
18 responsibilities under the child support laws of the state. It is the intent of the  
19 legislature that "sex education" shall not include religious beliefs, practices in human  
20 sexuality, nor the subjective moral and ethical judgments of the instructor or other

1 persons. Students shall not be tested, quizzed, or surveyed about their personal or  
 2 family beliefs or practices in sex, morality, or religion; however, a governing  
 3 authority of a public school in Orleans Parish may allow students to be surveyed  
 4 about their risk behaviors, including those related to sexual health.

5 \* \* \*

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)]

HB 326 Engrossed                                      2015 Regular Session                                      Wesley Bishop

**Abstract:** Authorizes surveys of public school students in Orleans Parish regarding risk behaviors.

Present law authorizes public elementary and secondary schools to offer instruction in sex education in grades seven and above, provided that such instruction is integrated into an existing course of study such as biology, science, physical hygiene, or physical education. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law prohibits students from being tested, quizzed, or surveyed about their personal beliefs or practices in sex, morality, or religion. Proposed law adds an exception to present law to authorize public school governing authorities in Orleans Parish to allow students to be surveyed about their risk behaviors, including those related to sexual health.

(Amends R.S. 17:281(A)(2))