
DIGEST

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HB 359 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Wesley Bishop

Abstract: Requires public school governing authorities in Orleans Parish to offer sex education instruction to students in grades seven through 12.

Present law authorizes all public elementary and secondary schools to offer instruction in sex education in grades seven and above and allows the Orleans Parish School Board to offer such instruction beginning in grade three. Provides that any sex education instruction offered be integrated into an existing course of study and limits the content of such instruction to scientific information that shall not include religious beliefs, practices in human sexuality, or subjective moral and ethical judgments. Provides that the major emphasis of any sex education instruction shall be to encourage sexual abstinence between unmarried persons.

Proposed law relative to Orleans Parish, requires public school governing authorities to adopt a policy that includes a plan for offering sex education instruction to students. Requires such governing authorities to offer the instruction in grades seven through 12 instead of permitting such instruction and specifies that such instruction be comprehensive, age and developmentally appropriate, medically accurate, and evidence-informed. Defines such terms for purposes of proposed law. Otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:281(H))