

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 648

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHRODER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EDUCATION: Provides relative to access by parents and teachers to assessments administered to students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:355(D) and to enact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(5) and 355(B)(3) and
3 (E), relative to access to school-related information and materials; to provide relative
4 to access by parents and teachers to assessments administered in public schools; to
5 provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:355(D) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:24.4(F)(5)
8 and 355(B)(3) and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for
10 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city
11 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

12 * * *

13 F.

14 * * *

15 (5)(a) Each public school teacher is entitled to review the assessment results
16 of any student he taught for the subject he taught in that school year and is entitled
17 to review an individualized student assessment report that identifies the student's
18 performance in each assessment domain.

19 (b) Each city, parish, and other local public school board shall adopt rules
20 and policies for each school to provide access to the student assessment results to a

1 teacher, upon request, for each student he taught for the subject he taught in that
2 school year. The principal of each school shall ensure that the school complies with
3 such rules.

4 * * *

5 §355. Parental access to instructional materials

6 * * *

7 B. A parent is entitled to:

8 * * *

9 (3) Review each assessment administered to the parent's child after the
10 assessment is administered, pursuant to Subsection E of this Section.

11 * * *

12 D. For purposes of this Section:

13 (1) "Assessment" means a state assessment administered pursuant to R.S.
14 17:24.4 but shall not include a national assessment that the state Department of
15 Education is prohibited by the assessment vendor from providing to a parent for
16 review.

17 ~~(1)~~ (2) "Instructional materials" means content that conveys the knowledge
18 or skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of
19 media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any nonsecure test,
20 nonsecure assessment, or survey administered to a student. The term also includes
21 books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media,
22 DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or
23 an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or
24 otherwise contributing to the learning process.

25 ~~(2)~~ (3) "Parent" means the parent or legal guardian of a child attending a
26 public elementary or secondary school.

27 ~~(3)~~ (4) "Survey" means any evaluative instrument or questionnaire that is not
28 an assessment of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, administered as part of a
29 state, national, or international assessment or by itself.

1 E.(1) The state Department of Education shall provide for an assessment
2 review period for parents of students who are administered such assessments. The
3 review period shall begin not later than ten business days following the
4 dissemination of assessment results to parents and shall be offered for at least ten
5 consecutive business days. The review shall be held at the department's main office
6 during regular business hours in the presence of the director of assessments or his
7 designee. During the review, the parent shall not photocopy or photograph any
8 assessment item or question or make handwritten or typed notes that identify an
9 assessment item or question.

10 (2) A parent who violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be fined not
11 more than ten thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months and may
12 be required to reimburse the state Department of Education for any costs incurred by
13 the department to replace any assessment items or questions determined to no longer
14 be secure due to the actions of the parent.

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 648 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Schroder

Abstract: Provides relative to access by parents and teachers to assessments administered in public schools.

Present law (R.S. 17:24.4(F)) requires standards-based assessments for required subjects (English language arts, math, science, and social studies) to be implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and administered in at least grades 3-11. Provides that such assessments be based on state content standards and rigorous student achievement standards comparable to national student achievement levels. Proposed law provides that a public school teacher review the assessment results of any student he taught for the subject he taught in that school year and review an individualized student assessment report that identifies the student's performance in each assessment domain. Requires local public school boards to adopt rules and policies for each school to provide access to the student assessment results to a teacher. Requires the school principal to ensure that the school complies with such rules. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 17:355) provides that a parent of a child attending a public elementary or secondary school is entitled to:

- (1) Review instructional materials used by or administered to the parent's child.
- (2) Review any survey before it is administered or distributed by a school to a student.

Proposed law adds provision that entitles a parent to review each assessment administered to the parent's child after the assessment is administered; otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law defines "assessment" as a state assessment administered pursuant to present law, which requires measuring performance in relation to grade appropriate skills, state content standards, and national educational indices. "Assessment" does not include a national assessment that the state Dept. of Education is prohibited by the assessment vendor from providing to a parent for review.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education to provide for an assessment review period for parents. Requires that the assessment period begin no later than 10 business days following the dissemination of assessment results to parents and requires it to be offered for at least 10 consecutive business days. Also requires that the review be held at the department's main office during regular business hours in the presence of the director of assessments or his designee.

Proposed law prohibits the parent, during the review, from photocopying or photographing any assessment item or question or making handwritten or typed notes that identify an assessment item or question. Provides that a parent who violates the provisions of proposed law be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than six months and may be required to reimburse the state Dept. of Education for any costs to replace any assessment items or questions determined to no longer be secure due to the actions of the parent.

(Amends R.S. 17:355(D); Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(5) and 355(B)(3) and (E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Change definition of "assessment" to specify that it does not include a national assessment that the state Dept. of Education is prohibited from providing to a parent for review.
2. Relative to teacher access to assessment results, limit such access to subjects the teacher taught the student and add provision for review of individualized student assessment reports.
3. Add provisions that provide for assessment review period for parents and to add penalties for parents who violate the provisions of proposed law.