
DIGEST

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HB 126 Original

2016 Regular Session

Smith

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 in a school system that assigns students to schools based upon attendance zones is eligible only if the public school he would have attended received a letter grade of "D" or "F" for the most recent year pursuant to the school and district accountability system, or the student is entering kindergarten in a school or school system that does not assign students to schools based upon attendance zones.

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))