

2017 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 190

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

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

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES. Provides relative to college transition courses. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:2927.1, relative to college and career readiness; to provide for identification of high school students who do not meet certain college readiness standards; to provide for the development and provision of certain courses designed to help students meet such readiness standards; to provide for end-of-course tests; to provide for professional development for teachers of such courses; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:2927.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2927.1. College transition courses; testing; reports

A. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in collaboration with local education agencies and the public postsecondary education management boards, shall develop transition courses designed to improve identified student academic weaknesses in English and mathematics and to enable such students to achieve college readiness by the end of their senior year of high school. Transition courses shall be aligned with state content standards and high school graduation requirements.

1 **B. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, a student's English and**
 2 **mathematics scores from the ACT test shall be used to determine readiness for**
 3 **college-level credit-bearing coursework.**

4 **C. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, each high school senior**
 5 **who did not meet the college readiness benchmarks established by ACT for**
 6 **English and mathematics shall be required to take an appropriate transition**
 7 **course.**

8 **D. The state Department of Education shall:**

9 **(1) Develop and administer an end-of-course test for each transition**
 10 **course. Passage of the end-of-course test shall not be required for passage of the**
 11 **course.**

12 **(2) Post the following information on the department's website by**
 13 **September thirtieth of each year:**

14 **(a) The number and percentage of students taking each transition course.**

15 **(b) The number and percentage of students taking each transition course**
 16 **who demonstrate college readiness on the end-of-course test.**

17 **(3) Ensure that teachers of transition courses are provided appropriate**
 18 **professional development.**

19 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 20 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 21 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 22 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 23 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

SB 190 Original

DIGEST
 2017 Regular Session

Thompson

Present law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to consult and collaborate with the postsecondary education management boards to establish initiatives to improve high school graduation rates and ensure that students are college and career ready.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires BESE, in collaboration with local education agencies and public postsecondary education management boards, to develop transition courses designed to improve identified student academic weaknesses in English and mathematics and enable such students to achieve college readiness by the end of the senior year of high school. Further provides that transition courses must be aligned with state content standards and high school graduation requirements.

Proposed law requires, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, that a student's English and mathematics scores from the ACT Test be used to determine college readiness.

Proposed law, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, requires each high school senior who did not meet the ACT college readiness benchmarks to take an appropriate transition course.

Proposed law requires the state Department of Education to:

- (1) Develop and administer an end-of-course test for each transition course. Further provides that passage of the test shall not be required for passage of the course.
- (2) Post the number and percentage of students taking each transition course and the number and percentage of students taking each transition course who demonstrate college readiness on the end-of-course test on the department's website by Sept. 30th of each year.
- (3) Ensure teachers of transition courses receive appropriate professional development.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:2927.1)