

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 656

BY REPRESENTATIVE EMERSON

STUDENTS: Provides relative to literacy screenings for students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:182(B), relative to public elementary school students; to  
3 provide relative to provisions that require each governing authority of a public  
4 elementary school to implement a reading program at elementary school in  
5 accordance with certain guidelines; to provide relative to certain reports; to authorize  
6 the state Department of Education to extend deadlines for administration and reports;  
7 and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:182(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §182. Student reading skills; requirements; reports

11 \* \* \*

12 B.(1) Not later than thirty days after the beginning of each school year, each  
13 second grade ~~teacher~~ student and each third grade ~~teacher~~ student shall ~~report~~ be  
14 administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students in the teacher's  
15 class who cannot read below, at, and above grade level. Students scoring above  
16 grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program.

17 (2) Not later than forty-five days after the beginning of the school year, a  
18 literacy screening report describing the number of students who read below, at, and  
19 above grade level ~~Copies of this report~~ shall be sent simultaneously by ~~the~~ each  
20 teacher to the principal of the school and to the system superintendent. The report



Proposed law changes requirement so that each second grade student and third grade student shall be administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students who read below, at, and above grade level. Provides that students scoring above grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program. Further provides that, not later than 45 days after the beginning of the school year, a literacy screening report describing the number of students who read below, at, and above grade level shall be sent simultaneously by the teacher to the principal of the school and to the system superintendent. Also provides that the report shall also include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as a result of their screening results.

Present law provides that, not later than 60 days after the beginning of each school year, the information required to be submitted by the teachers shall be forwarded by each system superintendent to the state superintendent of education and to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that not later than 90 days after the beginning of each school year, BESE shall compile and submit a report to the House and Senate education committees showing for each public elementary school, for each school system, and for the state as a whole the number of students in second or third grade who cannot read at grade level. Specifies that the data shall be reported in school progress profiles. Proposed law retains present law and authorizes state Department of Education, in times of crisis or natural disasters, to extend deadlines for administration and reporting results of the screening instruments.

(Amends R.S. 17:182(B))