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

SB 512 Engrossed DIGEST Gatti
2018 Regular Session

Present law (R.S. 17:2115.3) provides that no law, rule, or policy may deny any student attending a public elementary or secondary school the right to participate in voluntary, student-initiated, student-led prayer.

Present law (R.S. 17:2115.11) provides conditions for student-initiated prayer and allows school employees to volunteer to supervise student-initiated prayer. Also provides that any school employee may participate in the gathering if it occurs before the employee's work day begins or after the employee's work day ends.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally allows a school employee, upon request of a student or students, to attend and participate in a gathering where there is student-initiated prayer or to pray with a student during the employee's work day, provided that the parent or legal guardian of each student in attendance at the gathering, or with whom the employee prays, has submitted a signed request that the employee participate in the gathering or pray with his child and such participation does not interfere with the employee's prescribed work duties.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:2115.11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Allows school employees to pray with a student upon request if the student's parent or legal guardian has provided a signed request and the prayer does not interfere with the employee's work duties.