

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) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(B)(45), relative to  
3 elementary school students; to provide relative to provisions that require each  
4 governing authority of a public elementary or charter school to implement a reading  
5 program at an elementary school in accordance with certain guidelines; to provide  
6 relative to certain reports; to authorize the state Department of Education to extend  
7 deadlines for administration and reports; 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 and R.S. 17:3996(B)(45)  
10 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §182. Student reading skills; requirements; reports

12 \* \* \*

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

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

1 shall also include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as  
2 a result of their screening results.

3 ~~(2)~~ (3) Not later than sixty days after the beginning of each school year, the  
4 information required to be submitted pursuant to Paragraph ~~(1)~~ (2) of this Subsection  
5 shall be forwarded by each system superintendent to the state superintendent of  
6 education and to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

7 ~~(3)~~ (4) Not later than ninety days after the beginning of each school year, the  
8 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall compile and submit a  
9 report to the House Committee on Education and to the Senate Committee on  
10 Education showing for each public elementary school, for each school system, and  
11 for the state as a whole the number of students in second or third grades in public  
12 elementary schools who cannot read at grade level as determined pursuant to the  
13 provisions of this Section. The data for each school, for each school system, and for  
14 the state as a whole shall be reported in the school progress profiles provided for by  
15 R.S. 17:3911 and 3912.

16 (5) In times of crisis or natural disasters, the state Department of Education  
17 may extend deadlines for administration and reporting results of the screening  
18 instruments required by this Subsection.

19 \* \* \*

20 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

21 \* \* \*

22 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and  
23 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a  
24 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this  
25 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be  
26 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are  
27 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for  
28 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

29 \* \* \*



Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make present law and proposed law relative to literacy screening for students applicable to charter schools.