

# ACT No. 622

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 306

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS AND SENATOR LAFLEUR

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:273.3(C)(2) and (E)(4), to enact R.S. 17:10.1(G)(4), 273.2(D), and 273.3(H), relative to foreign language immersion programs in public schools; to provide that such programs can be any type of dual language immersion program in French or Spanish; to require local public school boards to notify parents or legal guardians of certain determinations with regard to requests to establish a program; to provide relative to the review of program requests, program approval and location, and student enrollment in a program; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:273.3(C)(2) and (E)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:10.1(G)(4), 273.2(D), and 273.3(H) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§10.1. School and district accountability system; purpose; responsibilities of state board

\* \* \*

G.

\* \* \*

(4) For purposes of this Subsection, "foreign language immersion program" means any type of dual language immersion program in French or Spanish.

\* \* \*

§273.2. Foreign language immersion programs; certification process; criteria

\* \* \*



1 (b) Such program shall be continued as long as at least twenty students  
2 remain enrolled in the program.

3 (c) The local school board shall ensure that any foreign language immersion  
4 program established pursuant to this Section is designated as a Certified Foreign  
5 Language Immersion Program by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education in accordance with R.S. 17:273.2 within three years from the date such  
7 program is established.

8 (d) The local school board shall review the written requests submitted  
9 pursuant to this Paragraph and shall notify the parents or legal guardians not later  
10 than February fifteenth of its determination as to whether or not the required number  
11 of requests was submitted.

12 (e) The local school board shall inform the parents and legal custodians of  
13 all students enrolled in the school system about the existence of any newly  
14 established foreign language immersion program and shall permit all eligible  
15 students to apply for the program during the designated enrollment period for the  
16 school year.

17 (f) The local school board shall consider the location of all students applying  
18 for a foreign language immersion program and shall make reasonable attempts to  
19 place the program in schools located near the majority of the students who applied.

20 \* \* \*

21 E. A local public school board shall not deny enrollment in a foreign  
22 language immersion program to any student if all of the following conditions are  
23 met:

24 \* \* \*

25 (4) The student applies for enrollment in such a program by no later than  
26 ~~March first~~ April fifteenth of the school year prior to such enrollment.

27 \* \* \*

1                    H. For purposes of this Section, "foreign language immersion program"  
2                    means any type of dual language immersion program in French or Spanish.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_