

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 403

BY SENATOR BOUIE

EARLY CHILDHOOD ED. Provides relative to screening or testing required for entrance in a public prekindergarten program. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.8(A) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(B)(67), relative to
3 prekindergarten instruction in public schools; to provide for the youngest age a child
4 may enroll in prekindergarten instruction at public schools; to provide relative to any
5 testing or screening required for entrance into a program; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.8(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3996(B)(67)
9 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §24.8. Prekindergarten programs

11 A.(1) Each city, parish, or other local public school board may develop and
12 offer prekindergarten instruction. The youngest age at which a child may enter
13 prekindergarten provided for by this Subsection shall be ~~two years younger than the~~
14 ~~age required for that child to enter first grade as provided by R.S. 17:222(A)~~ **three**
15 **years old by September thirtieth of the year in which the child begins**
16 **prekindergarten.**

17 **(2) Any mandatory screening or testing for entrance into a**

Proposed law requires any mandatory screening or testing for entrance into a prekindergarten program be provided by the local school board at no cost to the child and provides that the results be given to the parent or legal guardian at least 15 days prior to the deadline for applying to the program.

Proposed law requires charter schools to adhere to the requirements relative to any prekindergarten screening and testing required for entrance into the program.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:24.8(A); adds R.S. 17:3996(B)(67))