

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 346

BY REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON, AMEDEE, BRASS, DUBUISSON, EDMONDS,
FREEMAN, FREIBERG, HARRIS, HILFERTY, HUGHES, JEFFERSON,
KERNER, CHARLES OWEN, ROMERO, SCHLEGEL, ST. BLANC, TARVER,
VILLIO, AND WHEAT

STUDENT/LOANS-SCHOLARSHIP: Provides for a program and a fund for the purpose
of providing scholarships for students in approved teacher preparation programs

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:7.6, relative to education; to establish a program for the purpose of
3 awarding scholarships to students in certain teacher preparation programs; to provide
4 for program administration by the state Department of Education; to create a fund
5 for the purpose of funding the program; to require the State Board of Elementary and
6 Secondary Education to adopt rules relative to the program and the fund; and to
7 provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:7.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §7.6. Geaux Teach Program and Geaux Teach Fund

11 A. The Geaux Teach Program is hereby established for the purpose of
12 awarding scholarships to students in teacher preparation programs at postsecondary
13 education institutions that are approved by the State Board of Elementary and
14 Secondary Education. The program shall be administered by the state Department
15 of Education, which shall provide for application requirements, eligibility criteria,
16 and selection of scholarship recipients. The department shall not use more than three
17 percent of the funding available for the program for costs associated with
18 administering the program.

1 B.(1) The Geaux Teach Fund, referred to in this Section as the "fund", is
 2 hereby created within the state treasury for the purpose of providing funding for the
 3 Geaux Teach Program.

4 (2) Monies in the fund shall be subject to appropriation by the legislature and
 5 shall be available exclusively for use by the state Department of Education for
 6 purposes of the Geaux Teach Program.

7 (3) All unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the
 8 fiscal year shall remain in the fund and be available for appropriation the next fiscal
 9 year. The monies shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as monies
 10 in the state general fund, and all interest earned shall be credited to the fund
 11 following compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the
 12 Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund.

13 C. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt rules
 14 and regulations for the implementation of this Section.

15 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 16 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 17 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 18 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 19 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 346 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Thompson

Abstract: Provides for the Geaux Teach Program and the Geaux Teach Fund to provide scholarships for students in approved teacher preparation programs.

Proposed law establishes the Geaux Teach Program and Geaux Teach Fund for the purpose of awarding scholarships to students in approved teacher preparation programs at postsecondary education institutions and:

- (1) Provides for administration of the program by the state Dept. of Education (DOE), which shall provide for application requirements, eligibility criteria, and selection of scholarship recipients; prohibits DOE from using more than 3% of the funding available for the program for administrative costs.

- (2) Creates the Geaux Teach Fund for the purpose of providing funding for the program.
- (3) Requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt rules for proposed law implementation.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:7.6)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Change effective date of proposed law from Aug. 1 to upon signature of governor.