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## DIGEST

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HB 852 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Schlegel

**Abstract:** Creates a book delivery program for certain public school students.

Proposed law creates a program for certain public school students in pre-kindergarten through the 5th grade in which books and other reading materials are sent to the students' homes.

Proposed law provides that a public school student who is in one of the following categories is eligible for the program:

- (1) Enrolled in pre-kindergarten and does not score satisfactorily on the literacy section of the Early Childhood Assessment administered by the state Dept. of Education (DOE).
- (2) Enrolled in kindergarten or the first, second, or third grade and reads below grade level or is at risk for reading difficulties according to a literacy assessment.
- (3) Enrolled in the fourth or fifth grade and scored below mastery in English language arts on the state assessment in the prior school year.
- (4) Enrolled in kindergarten through the 5th grade, lacks a literacy or English language arts assessment result, and is recommended for the program by an English teacher.

Proposed law requires the DOE to administer the program. Further requires the department to:

- (1) Publish information about the program on the department's website.
- (2) Provide marketing materials to schools and school districts.
- (3) Develop a list of books for each grade level.
- (4) Annually report the number of participating students on its website.

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to establish a schedule for participating students to receive books.

Proposed law provides that the program shall be implemented based on the appropriation of funds. Authorizes DOE to make adjustments to the program based on the availability of funds.

(Adds R.S. 17:4033.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Specify books shall be age-appropriate and exclude any material harmful to minors.
2. Add certain pre-kindergarten students to the list of eligible students for the program.
3. Relative to parental election for their child's participation in the program, change from an opt-in to an opt-out.