
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

SB 50 Reengrossed DIGEST Hewitt
2022 Regular Session

Present law provides for public school choice for certain students by allowing students enrolled in schools that earned a "D" or "F" pursuant to the state's accountability system during the prior school year to transfer to certain schools that received an "A", "B", or "C".

Proposed law allows a student to enroll in a program of choice under certain circumstances.

Proposed law defines a "program of choice" as a public high school program that allows a student to concurrently pursue a high school diploma and one of the following:

- (1) A postsecondary degree, credential, or certificate.
- (2) A state-registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship.

Proposed law allows a high school student to enroll in a program of choice offered within his school system, without regard to attendance zones, provided that both of the following apply:

- (1) The program of choice and the high school offering the program have available capacity at the appropriate grade level.
- (2) The program of choice is not offered at the public high school in which the student was most recently enrolled, or would otherwise attend.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of each public high school to adopt policies to govern student transfers to programs of choice. Proposed law further requires the governing authority rules to include:

- (1) A definition of "capacity" for each high school and each program of choice.
- (2) The transfer request period, which shall begin no later than March first and end no earlier than March twenty-eighth, annually.
- (3) The process for submitting a student transfer request for each program.
- (4) Admission requirements, if any, for each program.
- (5) The process for requesting review of a denial of a request to transfer to a program of choice by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with present law (R.S. 17:4035.1(C)).

Proposed law requires the governing authority of each public high school to partner with local businesses and public postsecondary education institutions to grow programs of choice that are relevant to the school's local area and to the state that lead to careers in high-demand, high-paying fields and to work to ensure the programs are evenly distributed among the high schools in the school system.

Proposed law restricts the authority to enroll a student in a program of choice if the enrollment violates an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

Proposed law provides that the proposed law shall not be construed as requiring a high school or a program of choice with selective admission requirements to enroll a student who does not meet the admission requirements, regardless of whether the school or program of choice has available capacity.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:4035.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Requires each public school governing authority to work to grow programs of choice and ensure the programs are evenly distributed.