

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 164

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

TOPS: Lowers the minimum ACT score required for initial qualification for a TOPS-Tech Award from 17 to 15

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5024(B) and to enact R.S. 17:5024.1, relative to the Taylor
3 Opportunity Program for Students; to lower the minimum ACT score required for
4 initial qualification for a TOPS-Tech Award; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:5024(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:5024.1 is
7 hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §5024. Academic requirements

9 * * *

10 B.~~(1)~~ Except as otherwise provided by ~~this Subsection~~, R.S. 17:5024.1, a
11 student shall earn the following minimum test scores for the respective awards:

12 ~~(a)~~ (1) For an Opportunity Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of
13 the ACT which is at least equal to or higher than the state's average composite score,
14 truncated to a whole number, reported for the prior year but never less than twenty
15 or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or
16 on the SAT.

17 ~~(b)~~ (2) For a Performance Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of
18 the ACT of twenty-three or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any
19 enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

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 164 Original

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Abstract: Lowers the minimum ACT score required for initial qualification for a TOPS-Tech Award from 17 to 15.

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) as a merit scholarship program for students meeting specific initial eligibility requirements, including attainment of a minimum ACT score, which varies by award level.

Present law, for initial qualification for a TOPS-Tech Award, requires a minimum ACT score of 17. Proposed law, applicable to students graduating from high school during or after the 2022-2023 school year, lowers this score from 17 to 15.

(Amends R.S. 17:5024(B); Adds R.S. 17:5024.1)