

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8

BY REPRESENTATIVE MELERINE

SCHOOLS/HIGH SCHOOL: Prohibits the use of an appeals process for certain students who fail to pass state-administered tests required for high school graduation

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(g), relative to high school graduation; to prohibit the use of an  
3 appeals process for high school graduation for students who have not met certain  
4 achievement levels on state assessments; to provide exceptions; and to provide for  
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(g) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for  
9 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city  
10 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

11 \* \* \*

12 F.(1)

13 \* \* \*

14 (g) Neither the state board nor the department may approve or implement an  
15 appeals process allowing a student who has not met the achievement level required  
16 to pass the state-administered end-of-course assessments required for high school  
17 graduation to become eligible for graduation through the submission of a portfolio.

18 \* \* \*

19 Section 2. The provisions of this Act do not affect students pursuing graduation  
20 eligibility pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 833 of the 2014 Regular Session of the

- 1 Legislature, which is known as the "April Dunn Act" pursuant to Act No. 1 of the 2020
  - 2 Regular Session of the Legislature.
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## 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)]

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HB 8 Original

2024 Regular Session

Melerine

**Abstract:** Prohibits a student who has not passed end-of-course LEAP tests from becoming eligible for high school graduation through an appeals process involving the submission of a portfolio.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to implement the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Requires that BESE implement standards-based assessments in English language arts, math, science, and social studies and that the tests be administered, at a minimum, in grades three through 11. Also requires BESE to establish by rule the adequate test score to determine successful performance of the student on each test.

Proposed law prohibits BESE and DOE from approving or implementing an appeals process allowing a student who has not met the achievement level required to pass the LEAP end-of-course assessments required for high school graduation to become eligible for graduation through the submission of a portfolio.

Proposed law further provides that proposed law does not affect students pursuing graduation eligibility pursuant to present law (Act No. 833 of the 2014 R.S., known as the "April Dunn Act"), which provides alternative pathways for graduation for certain special education students.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(g))