2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

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

TOPS: Requires schools to use a 10-point grading scale to assign grades used in the calculation of the minimum grade point average required for initial award eligibility

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5024(A)(1), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for
3	Students; to require schools to use a ten-point grading scale to assign grades used to
4	calculate the minimum grade point average for initial qualification for a program
5	award; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. $17:5024(A)(1)$ is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
8	§5024. Academic requirements
9	A.(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall
10	meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00
11	scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum
12	requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:
13	(a) (i) For an Opportunity Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average
14	of 2.50.
15	(b) (ii) For a Performance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average
16	of 3.25.
17	(c) (iii) For an Honors Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average
18	of 3.50.
19	(d) (iv) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a minimum cumulative grade point
20	average of 2.50.

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	(b) Each school shall use the ten-point grading scale provided in for R.S.
2	17:184 for the purpose of assigning grades used in the calculation of the minimum
3	grade point average required by Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph regardless of
4	whether the school uses a different grading scale for other purposes. The provisions
5	of this Subparagraph shall apply to public schools and nonpublic schools approved
6	in accordance with R.S. 17:11.
7	* * *

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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Abstract: Requires schools to use a 10-point grading scale to assign grades used in calculating a student's GPA for initial TOPS award qualification purposes.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a merit scholarship program. Provides for academic criteria students must meet in high school in order to qualify initially for a program award, including attainment of a minimum GPA on a specified core curriculum. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>.

<u>Present law</u> generally requires public schools to use a uniform 10-point grading scale. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and requires schools (both public and approved nonpublic schools) to use this grading scale for purposes of assigning grades used in the calculation of such minimum GPA regardless of whether the school uses a different grading scale for other purposes.

(Amends R.S. 17:5024(A)(1))