

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 81

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

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

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY. Provides for academic transparency and parental access to digital instructional materials and other educational materials in a manner that is free-of-charge. (8/1/25)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:355(C) and (D)(1), relative to elementary and secondary education; to provide for transparency and parental access to school-related instructional materials in public schools; to provide parental in-person access to certain printed instructional materials free-of-charge; to provide parental access to certain online instructional materials free-of-charge; to allow local school boards to develop policies for in-person viewing of certain academic tests or assessments; to require each local school board to submit certain rules and policies to the state Department of Education with respect to parental access to instructional materials; to provide for reports to the legislature; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:355(C) and (D)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§355. Parental access to instructional materials

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C.(1) Each local school board shall adopt rules and policies for each school

1 to make instructional materials readily available for review as provided in this
2 Section. The rules ~~may~~ **shall** specify reasonable hours for **in-person** review. The
3 rules shall ~~provide~~ **require** that the school ~~shall~~ provide access to instructional
4 materials, **including online access,** to a parent upon request.

5 **(2)(a) If a parent requests a paper copy of material that can be readily copied**
6 **using school equipment, such copy shall be provided. The rules shall establish**
7 **reasonable and customary fees to be collected by the school to cover the cost of**
8 **providing such copies.**

9 **(b) No fee shall be charged to a parent for in-person viewing of their**
10 **child's instructional materials if the parent does not request that copies are**
11 **made of those materials.**

12 **(c) No fee shall be imposed when a parent accesses instructional**
13 **materials online.**

14 **(d) No other** provision of law or school board policy shall prohibit or
15 interfere with a parent's ability to make his own copies on school premises via
16 mobile or other device **that has the capability of making copies.** The principal of
17 each school shall ensure that the school complies with such rules.

18 **(3) Assessments of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, including**
19 **nonsecure tests, assessments, and assessment answer keys, may be made**
20 **available to parents at the discretion of the local school board and may include**
21 **only in-person viewing at the school.**

22 **(4) The requirement to provide online access to instructional materials**
23 **shall be limited to curricula that is adopted in accordance with R.S. 17:351.1.**
24 **Other instructional materials may be made available to a parent in-person in**
25 **accordance with local rules and policies adopted by the local school board.**

26 **(5)(a) Each local school board shall submit an electronic copy or a digital**
27 **link to rules and policies, that are adopted pursuant to this Section, to the state**
28 **Department of Education. The submission shall include the reasonable and**
29 **customary fee schedule which may be charged to the parent pursuant to this**

Section.

(b) The department shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education by March 9, 2026, as to compliance with this Section by the local school boards. The report shall include a copy of each policy and the reasonable and customary fee schedules permitted pursuant to this Section.

D. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Instructional materials" means content that conveys the knowledge or skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any ~~nonsecure test, nonsecure assessment, or~~ survey administered to a student. The term also includes books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media, DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 81 Engrossed

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Edmonds

Present law provides that a parent of a child attending a public elementary or secondary school is entitled to:

- (1) Review instructional materials used by or administered to the parent's child.
- (2) Review any survey before it is administered or distributed by a school to a student.
- (3) Obtain paper copies of the instructional material used by their child for a fee that is reasonable and customary.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a parent is also entitled to receive online access, free-of-charge, to any instructional material that is electronically accessible.

Present law requires that each local school board adopt rules and policies for each school to make instructional materials available for review. Provides that the rules may specify reasonable hours for review and specifies that the school is to provide paper copies to a parent upon request and establish reasonable fees for those copies. Provides that a parent

may make copies themselves via mobile or other device. Provides that the principal of each school shall ensure that the school complies with such rules.

Proposed law retains present law and requires the local school board to adopt rules to specify reasonable hours for in-person review of instructional materials and to provide that such in-person review is free-of-charge if the parent is not requesting paper copies.

Proposed law provides that academic nonsecure tests and assessment answer keys, may be shown to the parents at the discretion of the local school board and may include only in-person viewing at the school.

Proposed law provides that online access to instructional materials is limited to curricula that is adopted by the local school board in compliance with present law.

Proposed law requires each local school board to submit an electronic copy or a digital link to rules, policies, and the fee schedules that are adopted pursuant to proposed law to the state Dept. of Education. Provides that, before March 9, 2026, the Dept. of Education shall compile the information submitted by the local school boards and submit a report of the data compiled to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education as to the compliance of the local school boards with the provisions of proposed law. The report shall include a copy of each policy and the reasonable and customary fee schedules permitted pursuant to this Section.

Present law defines "instructional materials" to mean content that conveys the knowledge or skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any nonsecure test, nonsecure assessment, or survey administered to a student. The term also includes books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media, DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process.

Proposed law retains present law and removes nonsecure test and nonsecure assessment from the lists of instructional materials that are to be produced to the parent.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 17:355(C) and (D)(1))