

2026 Regular Session

ACT No. 545

HOUSE BILL NO. 363

BY REPRESENTATIVES JACOB LANDRY, AMEDEE, CARRIER, CHASSION, DESHOTEL, EDMONSTON, FREIBERG, MIKE JOHNSON, TERRY LANDRY, MARTINEZ, SCHLEGEL, AND TAYLOR

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:176.2, relative to students enrolled in virtual schools; to
3 authorize students enrolled in virtual schools to participate in public school activities
4 at the public school they would otherwise attend based on their residence; to specify
5 that such activities include extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics; and
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:176.2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 §176.2. Extracurricular activities; interscholastic athletics; participation by home
10 study students and virtual school students

11 A. A public school shall not disqualify a student from participating in
12 extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics solely because the student is
13 enrolled in an approved home study ~~program, so long as~~ program or virtual school
14 if the student lives in the attendance zone of the public school.

15 (1) A student who is enrolled in an approved home study program or virtual
16 school shall try out or apply for extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics
17 at the public school in the same manner, time, and place as the students who attend
18 the public school.

19 (2) After the try out or application, should the ~~approved home study~~ student
20 meet the qualifications for an extracurricular activities club or an interscholastic
21 athletics team, the ~~approved home study~~ student shall be required to maintain all

1 requirements for participation that a ~~public school~~ student enrolled in that public
 2 school would have to meet in order to participate in the extracurricular activity or the
 3 interscholastic athletics activity, including but not limited to maintaining a minimum
 4 grade point average and complying with disciplinary standards. Failure to meet the
 5 requirements with respect to a minimum grade point average or failure to adhere to
 6 the disciplinary standards shall be grounds for the school to remove the ~~approved~~
 7 ~~home study~~ student from participation in the extracurricular activities club or the
 8 interscholastic athletics team.

9 B. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no public school may be
 10 a member of, or participate in any competition sponsored by, any interscholastic
 11 extracurricular athletic association or organization that denies eligibility to a student
 12 solely on the basis of the student's enrollment in an approved home study program
 13 or virtual school.

14 C. For purposes of this Section:

15 (1) "Approved home study program" means a home study program approved
 16 as provided for in R.S. 17:236.1.

17 (2) "Virtual school" shall be defined as in R.S. 17:236.3.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____