
DIGEST

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Hardy

HB No. 31

Abstract: Requires BESE to adopt a policy requiring high schools to adhere to the La. High School Athletic Association's Scholastic Rule that requires a "C" average to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Present law requires local school superintendents to cause principals and faculties of middle, junior high, and high schools to upgrade the academic standards of student athletes so that such athletes accomplish their maximum potential in academic endeavors while participating in interscholastic athletics.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt a policy requiring, as a minimum that the Louisiana High School Athletic Association's (LHSAA) 1984 Scholastic Rule (relative to minimum academic requirements, including a 1.5 grade point average) be adhered to by all high schools under its jurisdiction. Requires BESE annually to review the association's policy and to adopt rules to ensure that such minimum standards are maintained or upgraded.

Proposed law retains present law requirement that BESE adopt a policy but refers to the LHSAA's rule adopted in Jan. of 2010 instead of the 1984 rule and provides that the BESE policy shall be effective for the 2011-2012 school year and thereafter. Adds that the LHSAA's scholastic regulations ("C" average) shall be the minimum standard. Deletes the requirement that BESE review the association's policy and adopt rules relative thereto.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:176(B) and (C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Adds that BESE policy shall require that the Jan. 2010 Scholastic Rule of the LHSAA ("C" average to participate in sports) be adhered to by all high schools under its jurisdiction.

2. Deletes requirement that public school students in 6th through 12th grades have at least a "C" average for all courses of study to participate in sports.
3. Deletes requirement that BESE annually review its policy and adopt rules relative thereto.