

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 95

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANEY

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

STUDENT/SCH ATTENDANCE: Exempts certain students who are at least 17 years old from the compulsory school attendance law and other related provisions

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:221(K), relative to compulsory school attendance; to exempt from the  
3 compulsory school attendance law and other related provisions certain students who  
4 are at least seventeen years of age and have been issued a Louisiana high school  
5 equivalency diploma; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:221(K) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §221. School attendance; compulsory ages; duty of parents; excessive absences;  
9 ~~consent to withdraw~~; condition for driving privileges

10 \* \* \*

11 K. A child who is at least seventeen years of age and who, after successfully  
12 completing a program established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
13 Education, has been issued a Louisiana high school equivalency diploma in  
14 accordance with criteria established by the Board of Supervisors of Community and  
15 Technical Colleges shall be considered exited from high school and shall not be  
16 subject to the provisions of this Subpart.

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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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Chaney

HB No. 95

**Abstract:** Exempts students who are at least 17 years old and have been issued a La. high school equivalency diploma from the compulsory school attendance law and other related provisions.

Present law (R.S. 17:221) requires every parent (or certain other persons) having control or charge of any child from that child's seventh birthday until his 18th birthday to send the child to a public or private day school unless the child graduates from high school prior to his 18th birthday. Specifies penalties for violation.

Present law (R.S. 17:222-240) further provides relative to school attendance, including but not limited to dropout prevention and recovery, visiting teacher or supervisors of child welfare and attendance, exemptions from compulsory attendance, habitual absence or tardiness, home study programs, prohibited use of electronic telecommunication devices, and prohibition against smoking in schools.

Proposed law retains present law and exempts from present law a child who is at least 17 years old and has been issued a La. high school equivalency diploma after successfully completing a program established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Provides that such child shall be considered exited from high school.

(Adds R.S. 17:221(K))