

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 214

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

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

SCHOOLS/PARENTS: Provides relative to parental involvement in public schools

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:406.8, relative to parental involvement in public schools; to authorize and
3 encourage public school governing authorities to create partnerships for the purpose
4 of increasing parental involvement in schools; to authorize public school governing
5 authorities to identify and encourage participation in parenting classes and to provide
6 recognition for participation in such classes; to authorize public school governing
7 authorities and the state Department of Education to identify available funding
8 sources to provide for such classes; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:406.8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §406.8. Parental involvement; parenting classes; recognition for participation

12 A. The governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school
13 is authorized and encouraged to partner with individuals, community and faith-based
14 groups and organizations, and nonprofit and for-profit entities to design and
15 implement programs to increase parental involvement in children's education and
16 schools.

17 B. The governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school
18 may:

19 (1) Identify and encourage participation in parenting classes that are
20 designed to increase parental involvement, are provided at low or no cost to parents,

1 and that provide parents with information and skills related to improving student
2 performance, including but not limited to the following:

3 (a) How to be a positive role model for children and motivate them to do
4 well in school.

5 (b) How to maximize the benefits of parent-teacher conferences.

6 (c) The importance of sleep and good nutrition in school performance.

7 (d) How to help with homework assignments and to establish an
8 environment conducive to their completion.

9 (e) Techniques for students to improve study habits and classroom
10 performance.

11 (f) How to access and use any technology provided by the school or school
12 governing authority that furnishes information about school assignments, activities,
13 and events and about student attendance and performance.

14 (g) The importance of school attendance and the consequences of truancy.

15 (h) How to help students prepare for entrance into postsecondary education
16 or the workforce.

17 (i) Ways of becoming involved in a child's school, including volunteer
18 opportunities.

19 (2) Provide recognition in the following ways to schools and classes in
20 which a high percentage of parents participate in at least two parenting classes:

21 (a) Solicit donations from individuals, community and faith-based groups
22 and organizations, and nonprofit and for-profit entities to fund rewards such as
23 equipment and supplies and field trips and other educational activities.

24 (b) Devise other ways of providing recognition to schools and classes as well
25 as to participating parents.

26 C.(1) The governing authority of each public elementary and secondary
27 school shall encourage and provide opportunities for parents who participate in
28 parenting classes to encourage participation by other parents, including those whose
29 children are entering a school for the first time.

- 1 (2) The governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school
 2 and the state Department of Education may identify available funding sources that
 3 may be used to provide for such parenting classes.
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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)]

Jefferson

HB No. 214

Abstract: Provides relative to increasing parental involvement in public elementary and secondary schools.

Proposed law provides the following relative to increasing parental involvement in public schools:

- (1) Authorizes and encourages each public school governing authority to partner with individuals, community and faith-based groups and organizations, and nonprofit and for-profit entities to design and implement programs designed to increase parental involvement in children's education and schools.
- (2) Authorizes each public school governing authority to:
 - (a) Identify and encourage participation in parenting classes that are designed to increase parental involvement, are provided at low or no cost to parents, and that provide parents with information and skills related to improving student performance. Proposed law provides suggested content for such classes.
 - (b) Provide recognition to schools and classes in which a high percentage of parents participate in parenting classes by soliciting donations to fund rewards such as equipment and supplies and field trips and other educational activities and devise other ways of providing recognition to schools, classes, and participating parents.
- (3) Requires public school governing authorities to encourage and provide opportunities for any parents who participate in parenting classes to encourage participation by other parents.
- (4) Authorizes public school governing authorities and the state Dept. of Education to identify available funding sources that may be used to provide for such classes.

(Adds R.S. 17:406.8)