

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 656

BY SENATOR BUFFINGTON

FUNDS/FUNDING. To authorize public or private entities to make certain donations to various participating schools for recipients of student scholarship programs. (7/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:4016(A) and enact R.S. 17:4017(C), relative to scholarships  
3 for certain students; to authorize public or private entities to make certain donations  
4 to various participating schools for recipients of scholarships; to provide for an  
5 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:4016(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:4017(C)  
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §4016. Scholarship amounts; funding

10 A. The state board shall allocate annually from ~~the minimum foundation~~  
11 ~~program~~ **funds appropriated or otherwise available for the program** an amount  
12 per pupil to each participating school equal to the amount allocated per pupil **as**  
13 **provided in the minimum foundation program formula** to the local school system  
14 in which the scholarship recipient resides, considering all student characteristics.  
15 This amount shall be counted toward the equitable allocation of funds appropriated  
16 to parish and city school systems as provided in Article VIII, Section 13(B) of the  
17 Constitution of Louisiana. For a participating school that charges tuition, if the

1 maximum amount of tuition plus incidental or supplementary fees that are charged  
 2 to non-scholarship students enrolled in such school and any costs incurred in  
 3 administering the tests required pursuant to R.S. 17:4023 is less than the amount  
 4 allocated per pupil to the local school system in which the student resides, any  
 5 remaining funds shall be returned to the state or to the local school system in which  
 6 the scholarship recipient attended or otherwise would be attending public school for  
 7 that year according to the pro rata share for the per pupil amount each year as  
 8 determined by the minimum foundation program for the local school system in  
 9 which the scholarship recipient attended or otherwise would be attending public  
 10 school for that year.

11 \* \* \*

12 §4017. Payment of scholarships

13 \* \* \*

14 **C. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter to the contrary,**  
 15 **any public or private entity, including any nonprofit organization, may make**  
 16 **a directed donation to any participating school for a student who is a recipient**  
 17 **of a Student Scholarship for Educational Excellence Program.**

18 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2014; if vetoed by the governor  
 19 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,  
 20 2014, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jay R. Lueckel.

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DIGEST

Buffington (SB 656)

Present law provides for the establishment of the Student Scholarship for Educational Excellence Program to meet the needs of certain students.

Present law provides that the state shall annually allocate monies for the scholarship program from the minimum foundation program.

Proposed law provides that the state will annually fund the scholarship program from funds appropriated or otherwise available for the program at a per pupil amount as provided in the minimum foundation formula to the school system in which the scholarship recipient resides.

Proposed law retains present law relative to Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence

Program and also provides that any public or private entity, including any nonprofit organization, may make a directed donation to any participating school for a student who is a recipient of a Student Scholarship for Educational Excellence Program.

Effective July 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 17:4016(A); adds R.S. 17:4017(C))