ACT No. 436

HOUSE BILL NO. 1199

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHRODER AND SENATOR THOMPSON

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:235.1(B)(introductory paragraph) and (4)(e) and (D), to enact
3	R.S. 17:235.1(B)(4)(f) and 355, and to repeal R.S. 17:235.1(A), (C), and (F), relative
4	to parental access to school-related information and materials; to provide relative to
5	parental access to instructional materials in public schools; to require local school
6	boards to adopt rules and policies to provide for such access, including provisions
7	for reasonable fees for copies; to remove requirements for parents to attend parent
8	orientation; to require inclusion of school board policies for parental access to
9	instructional materials as a part of parent orientation; and to provide for related
10	matters.
11	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
12	Section 1. R.S. 17:235.1(B)(introductory paragraph) and (4)(e) are hereby amended
13	and reenacted and R.S. 17:235.1(B)(4)(f) and 355 are hereby enacted to read as follows:
14	§235.1. Parent orientation; mandatory for school entrance; city and parish <u>local</u>
15	<u>public</u> school boards; guidelines; employer responsibilities
16	* * *
17	B. Each city and parish local public school board shall conduct a parent
18	orientation course according to the following guidelines:
19	* * *
20	(4) At the parent orientation meeting, the school board or its representative
21	shall provide each parent or guardian a copy of and shall explain school board
22	policies which:
23	* * *

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1	(e) Address parental access to instructional materials as provided in R.S.
2	<u>17:355.</u>
3	(e) (f) Address any other such matters as the school board may deem
4	appropriate.
5	* * *
6	§355. Parental access to instructional materials
7	A. A parent of a child attending a public elementary or secondary school
8	shall be entitled to access to instructional materials as provided in this Section.
9	B. A parent is entitled to:
10	(1) Review instructional materials used by or administered to the parent's
11	child.
12	(2) Review any survey before the survey is administered or distributed by
13	a school to a student.
14	C. Each local school board shall adopt rules and policies for each school to
15	make instructional materials readily available for review as provided in this Section.
16	The rules may specify reasonable hours for review. The rules shall provide that the
17	school shall provide access to instructional materials to a parent upon request. If a
18	parent requests a paper copy of material that can be readily copied using school
19	equipment, such copy shall be provided. The rules shall establish reasonable and
20	customary fees to be collected by the school to cover the cost of providing such
21	copies. No provision of law or school board policy shall prohibit or interfere with
22	a parent's ability to make his own copies on school premises via mobile or other
23	device. The principal of each school shall ensure that the school complies with such
24	<u>rules.</u>
25	D. For purposes of this Section:
26	(1) "Instructional materials" means content that conveys the knowledge or
27	skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of
28	media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any nonsecure test,
29	nonsecure assessment, or survey administered to a student. The term also includes
30	books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media,

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1	DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or
2	an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or
3	otherwise contributing to the learning process.
4	(2) "Parent" means the parent or legal guardian of a child.
5	(3) "Survey" means any evaluative instrument or questionnaire that is not an
6	assessment of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, administered as part of a
7	state, national, or international assessment or by itself.
8	Section 2.(A) R.S. 17:235.1(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
9	§235.1. Parent orientation; mandatory for school entrance; city and parish local
10	<u>public</u> school boards; guidelines; employer responsibilities
11	* * *
12	D. A city or parish local public school board shall schedule not less than
13	three orientation meetings during a school year, and at various times during the day,
14	in order to facilitate attendance with as little inconvenience to the parents or
15	guardians as possible. In order to carry out the intent and purpose of this Section, a
16	school board shall schedule not less than three orientation meetings between March
17	and September of each year, and shall publish notice and otherwise seek to notify
18	parents or guardians whose children may enter a school in the system of the
19	attendance requirements about the availability of and schedule for orientation
20	meetings.
21	* * *
22	(B) R.S. 17:235.1(A), (C), and (F) are hereby repealed in their entirety.
23	Section 3. Prior to August 1, 2014, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
24	Education and every local school board shall adopt rules and policies as provided in Section
25	1 of this Act and otherwise provide for implementation of Section 1 of this Act on August
26	1, 2014.
27	Section 4.(A) Sections 2 and 3 of this Act and this Section shall become effective
28	upon signature of this Act by the governor or, if this Act is not signed by the governor, upon
29	expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided
30	by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If this Act is vetoed by the

[governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, Sections 2 and 3 of this Act and this
2	Section shall become effective on the day following such approval.
3	(B) Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on August 1, 2014.
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: _____