DIGEST

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HB 546 Original

2015 Regular Session

Price

Abstract: Provides relative to courses of study or programs eligible for TOPS-Tech awards for certain students.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) as a program of merit scholarships for students attending certain postsecondary education institutions who meet specific grade point average, ACT score, and core curriculum requirements and certain other qualifications. Provides for the TOPS-Tech award for students who enroll in certain colleges and universities to pursue skill or occupational training, including vocational or technical education certificates or diploma programs or nonacademic undergraduate degrees.

Further provides for the amounts awarded to TOPS-Tech award recipients.

<u>Proposed law</u> deletes the pursuit of a nonacademic undergraduate degree from the list of programs or courses of study eligible for TOPS-Tech awards. Also, requires that programs or courses of study for skill or occupational training be aligned to state workforce priorities as determined by the La. Workforce Investment Council rather than as defined by the Bd. of Regents.

(Amends R.S. 17:3048.1(B)(2)(intro. para.) and (4)(b))