

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 320

BY REPRESENTATIVE WOODRUFF

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

STUDENTS: Provides relative to dropout prevention and recovery

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:221.4(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph) and 221.6(A),
3 (E)(introductory paragraph), and (I)(introductory paragraph) and to enact R.S.
4 17:221.6(I)(4), relative to high school dropout recovery programs; to provide with
5 respect to funding; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:221.4(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph) and 221.6(A),
8 (E)(introductory paragraph), and (I)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and
9 reenacted and R.S. 17:221.6(I)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §221.4. Louisiana School Dropout prevention and recovery program Prevention Act

11 A. This Section shall be known and may be cited as the "Louisiana School
12 Dropout Prevention ~~and Recovery Act of 2014~~".

13 * * *

14 C. A student; who is under eighteen years of age, who withdraws from
15 school prior to graduating from high school, and who has not enrolled in a dropout
16 recovery program as provided in R.S. 17:221.6 shall exercise one of the following
17 options within one hundred twenty days of leaving school:

18 * * *

Present law allows each school district and charter school that provides instruction to high school students to offer a dropout recovery program. Proposed law adds that such districts and schools should maximize the use of Title 1 and at-risk funds through the minimum foundation program (MFP) to establish such programs.

Present law requires that a student enrolled in such a program be included in the student enrollment count for the school or school district offering the program. Proposed law adds that such students shall be recorded on a monthly basis as program participants.

Present law requires monthly reporting by schools and school systems to the state Dept. of Education and specifies information to be included in the reports. Proposed law requires that such information be recorded monthly rather than reported to DOE monthly.

Proposed law retains present law with respect to other provisions of the dropout recovery program and clarifies certain terms.

(Amends R.S. 17:221.4(A) and (C)(intro. para.) and 221.6(A), (E)(intro. para.), and (I)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:221.6(I)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Retain present law provision authorizing all schools and school districts providing instruction to high school students to offer dropout recovery programs and remove proposed law provision that would have required the offering of such programs in schools with low graduation rates.
2. Instead of requiring the funding of students in such programs as provided in the minimum foundation program (MFP) formula, provide that school districts and charter schools should maximize the use of Title 1 and at-risk funds through the MFP to establish such programs.