

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 218

BY SENATOR BISHOP

STUDENTS. Authorizes the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Hospitals to survey students regarding certain risk behavior associated with chronic health conditions. (8/1/16)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:281(A)(2), relative to student health; to authorize the
3 Department of Education and the Department of Health and Hospitals to survey
4 students about risk behavior associated with chronic health conditions; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:281(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §281. Instruction in sex education

9 A. * * *

10 (2)**(a)** It is the intent of the legislature that, for the purposes of this Section,
11 "sex education" shall mean the dissemination of factual biological or pathological
12 information that is related to the human reproduction system and may include the
13 study of sexually transmitted disease, pregnancy, childbirth, puberty, menstruation,
14 and menopause, as well as the dissemination of factual information about parental
15 responsibilities under the child support laws of the state. It is the intent of the
16 legislature that "sex education" shall not include religious beliefs, practices in human
17 sexuality, nor the subjective moral and ethical judgments of the instructor or other

1 persons. Students shall not be tested, quizzed, or surveyed about their personal or
2 family beliefs or practices ~~in~~ about sex, morality, or religion.

3 **(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this**
4 **Paragraph, the following may survey students about their risk behavior**
5 **associated with chronic health conditions, including those related to sexual**
6 **health:**

7 **(i) The Department of Education.**

8 **(ii) The Department of Health and Hospitals.**

9 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ann S. Brown.

DIGEST

SB 218 Original 2016 Regular Session Bishop

Present law authorizes public schools to offer instruction in "sex education" provided that such instructions is integrated into an existing course of study such as biology, science, physical hygiene, or physical education.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law prohibits testing, quizzing, or surveying students about their personal beliefs or practices in sex, morality, or religion.

Proposed law creates an exception to present law by authorizing the Dept. of Education and the Dept. of Health & Hospital to survey students about their risk behavior associated with chronic health conditions, including those related to sexual health.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 17:281(A)(2))