

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 400

BY REPRESENTATIVE REYNOLDS

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS: Provides relative to the review of textbooks and other instructional materials by the state Dept. of Education

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:351.1(B)(1), relative to textbooks and other instructional
3 materials; to provide relative to the review of textbooks and other instructional
4 materials by the state Department of Education; to require that the department
5 conduct such reviews in accordance with the schedule of the State Board of
6 Elementary and Secondary Education for reviews of certain content standards; to
7 require the department to prioritize certain reviews and to publish a related timeline
8 on its website; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:351.1(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §351.1. Textbooks and other instructional materials; review; adoption; procurement;
12 distribution

13 * * *

14 B.(1)(a) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall
15 establish a transparent, digital process whereby the state Department of Education
16 shall review textbooks and other instructional materials in the core subject areas of
17 English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies and determine the
18 degree to which each aligns with state content standards. The department may review
19 textbooks and instructional materials in other subject matter areas as it deems
20 necessary or upon request of a public school governing authority.

1 (b) The department may review textbooks and other instructional materials
 2 at such times as it deems necessary and appropriate but shall review textbooks and
 3 other instructional materials in the core subject areas of English language arts,
 4 mathematics, science, and social studies at least every six years, in accordance with
 5 the state board's schedule of reviews of core state academic content standards. The
 6 department shall prioritize reviews of textbooks and other instructional materials
 7 used to teach state academic content standards recently reviewed and revised and
 8 shall publish on its website a projected timeline of such prioritized reviews.

9 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 400 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Reynolds

Abstract: Requires that the state Dept. of Education's reviews of textbooks in core subjects be conducted in accordance with the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education's schedule of reviews of core state academic content standards.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to conduct reviews of textbooks and other instructional materials in the core subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies and to determine the degree to which each aligns with state content standards. Authorizes DOE to conduct reviews in other subject areas as it deems necessary or upon the request of a public school governing authority. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires DOE to conduct reviews in such core subjects at least every six years. Proposed law requires that DOE do this in accordance with the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education's schedule of reviews of core state academic content standards, prioritize reviews of textbooks used to teach state academic content standards recently reviewed and revised, and publish on its website a projected timeline of such prioritized reviews.

(Amends R.S. 17:351.1(B)(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Restore present law provisions authorizing DOE to review textbooks at such times as it deems necessary and appropriate and requiring the review of textbooks in core subject areas at least every six years.

2. Add proposed law requirement that DOE conduct reviews in accordance with the state board's schedule of reviews of core state academic content standards, prioritize reviews of textbooks used to teach state academic content standards recently reviewed and revised, and publish a projected review timeline on its website.
3. Remove proposed law prohibition against DOE's textbook reviews in more than one core subject area in a given year and proposed law requirement that reviews in core subject areas be conducted over the course of a six-year cycle.