

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 734

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

CURRICULA: Provides relative to access to dual enrollment

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3129.6(B), to enact Chapter 18-A of Title 17 of the Louisiana  
3 Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 17:2941 through 2944, and to  
4 repeal R.S. 17:2922.1 and 2929, relative to dual enrollment; to provide for a  
5 statewide dual enrollment program; to provide for funding; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3129.6(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and Chapter 18-A  
9 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:2941 through  
10 2944, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 Chapter 18-A. DUAL ENROLLMENT

12 §2941. Legislative findings

13 The Legislature of Louisiana finds that:

14 (1) A uniform and effective statewide dual enrollment program is important  
15 to achieve Louisiana's goals for the talent development of its students.

16 (2) Equitable access and increased participation are necessary to achieve a  
17 uniform and effective statewide dual enrollment program that expands postsecondary  
18 educational and occupational opportunities.

1           (3) Facilitating equitable access for all students, including low-income,  
2           diverse, and first-generation college students, is critical to increasing participation  
3           in dual enrollment.

4           (4) The availability of dual enrollment courses in both academic and career-  
5           technical curricula is crucial to expanding postsecondary educational and  
6           occupational opportunities.

7           §2942. Definitions

8           A. "Dual enrollment" means the enrollment of a secondary school student  
9           in a postsecondary course for which both secondary school and postsecondary credit  
10           may be earned.

11           B. "Courses" means one of the following:

12           (1) Academic courses that the successful completion of which would result  
13           in earned credit that may be transferred to a public postsecondary education  
14           institution and applied toward an undergraduate degree.

15           (2) Career and technical education courses aligned with the career major  
16           option, pursuant to R.S. 17:183.1 et seq., that may be transferred for credit to a  
17           public postsecondary education institution and applied toward a credential from such  
18           institution.

19           §2943. Rules and regulations.

20           A. The Board of Regents, in consultation with the state Board of Elementary  
21           and Secondary Education, shall adopt rules and regulations for the implementation  
22           of this Chapter.

23           B. The Board of Regents, in consultation with the state Board of Elementary  
24           and Secondary Education, shall manage the grants pursuant to R.S. 17:2944,  
25           including but not limited to application requirements, evaluation criteria, and  
26           selection.

27           §2944. Innovation and Equity Grant; purpose; management

28           A. The Dual Enrollment Innovation and Equity Grant is hereby established  
29           for the purpose of assisting and encouraging high schools and public postsecondary

1 education institutions to implement dual enrollment programs that provide equitable  
2 access and healthy participation.

3 B. A portion of funds appropriated to the Higher Education Initiatives Fund  
4 pursuant to R.S. 17:3129.6 shall be allocated to the grant created by this Section.

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6 §3129.6. Higher Education Initiatives Fund

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8 B. The sources of monies deposited into the fund shall be legislative  
9 appropriation and grants, gifts, and donations received by the state for the purposes  
10 of this Section. Monies in the fund shall be subject to appropriation by the  
11 legislature and shall be available exclusively for higher education institutions or for  
12 the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to in this Section as the "board". The  
13 board shall develop regulations and guidelines for the distribution and allocation of  
14 monies appropriated to the board which shall be subject to approval by the Joint  
15 Legislative Committee on the Budget. A portion of such funds shall be allocated to  
16 support dual enrollment programs. All unexpended and unencumbered monies in the  
17 fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund. Such monies shall be  
18 invested by the treasurer in the same manner as the monies in the state general fund,  
19 and all interest earned shall be credited to the fund following compliance with the  
20 requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative  
21 to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund.

22 Section 2. The following principles shall guide dual enrollment access and capacity  
23 building to develop statewide dual enrollment opportunities:

24 (a) The availability of dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International  
25 Baccalaureate courses, or any combination thereof, in core academic areas and in  
26 career and technical fields in all high schools is critical.

27 (b) The availability of dual enrollment courses in both technical and  
28 academic fields is essential to supporting the varied postsecondary pathways that

1 students pursue. Courses must be accessible to Louisiana's students in both areas,  
2 with opportunities provided for students to enroll in either or a combination of both.

3 (c) Expansion of dual enrollment opportunities should focus on increased  
4 access and equitable participation.

5 (d) Before graduating from high school, every student should be able to  
6 enroll in at least four dual enrollment courses for which they are eligible, with no  
7 tuition or fees charged to the student and minimized cost of attendance expenses  
8 such as textbooks and other instructional materials, testing, and transportation costs.

9 (e) Meaningful, predictive assessments administered in tenth grade or earlier  
10 will determine the college readiness of students and identify those in need of  
11 additional preparation.

12 (f) Postsecondary educational institutions should emphasize consistent  
13 academic quality in the delivery of courses offered for dual enrollment, regardless  
14 of course location, instructor type, or delivery modality.

15 (g) Existing state and federal funding streams should be utilized to their full  
16 extent to expand equitable participation in dual enrollment.

17 (h) With a focus on access and equity, the state's kindergarten through  
18 twelfth grade accountability system pursuant to R.S. 17:10.1 should provide  
19 appropriate incentives for schools to increase successful student completion of dual  
20 enrollment courses and college-level assessments.

21 (i) Grants awarded through the Dual Enrollment Innovation and Equity  
22 Grant through the Higher Education Initiatives fund shall aid in the expansion of  
23 dual enrollment opportunities across Louisiana, especially in rural areas.

24 Section 3. R.S. 17:2922.1 and R.S. 17:2929 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

25 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
26 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
27 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
28 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
29 effective on the day following such approval.

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**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)]

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HB 734 Original

2020 Regular Session

Brass

**Abstract:** Establishes a statewide dual enrollment program.

Proposed law defines "dual enrollment" and what constitutes a dual enrollment course.

Present law establishes the Higher Education Initiatives Fund and provides that money in the fund shall be used for higher education purposes. Proposed law creates a dual enrollment grant to be used to implement dual enrollment programs and to provide for equitable access and participation. Proposed law requires that a portion of the money in the Higher Education Initiatives Fund be used for the grant.

Present law established the Dual Enrollment Task Force and required local public school boards to develop agreements with colleges and universities for articulation and transfer of credit. Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3129.6(B); Adds R.S. 17:2941-2944; Repeals R.S. 17:2922.1 and 2929)