

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 734

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRASS AND FREEMAN

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(C) 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.

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

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

4 §2942. Definitions

5 A. "Dual enrollment" means the enrollment of a secondary school student
6 in a postsecondary course for which both secondary school and postsecondary credit
7 may be earned.

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

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

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

16 §2943. Rules and regulations

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

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

24 C. Nothing in this Chapter is intended to prohibit a city, parish, and other
25 local public school board from developing and continuing an interinstitutional
26 articulation and transfer agreement with a public postsecondary education institution
27 relative to dual enrollment.

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

4 (b) The availability of dual enrollment courses in both technical and
5 academic fields is essential to supporting the varied postsecondary pathways that
6 students pursue. Courses must be accessible to Louisiana's students in both areas,
7 with opportunities provided for students to enroll in either or a combination of both.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (i) Grants awarded through the Dual Enrollment Innovation and Equity
27 Grant through the Higher Education Initiatives Fund shall aid in the expansion of
28 dual enrollment opportunities across Louisiana, especially in rural areas.

29 Section 3. R.S. 17:2922.1(C) and 2929 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

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

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 734 Reengrossed

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 establishes the Dual Enrollment Task Force and requires local public school boards to develop agreements with colleges and universities for articulation and transfer of credit. Proposed law retains 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(C) and 2929)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Retain present law provisions relative to the Dual Enrollment Task Force.
2. Add provision regarding effect of proposed law on developing and continuing agreements between public school boards and public postsecondary education institutions relative to dual enrollment.