
The original instrument was prepared by Jeanne Johnston. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Linda Nugent.

DIGEST

Nevers (SB 733)

Provides that proposed law shall be known as the "Louisiana Science Education Act."

Proposed law requires BESE, upon request of a local school board, to allow and assist teachers, principals, and other school administrators to create and foster an environment within public elementary and secondary schools that promotes critical thinking skills, logical analysis, and open and objective discussion of scientific theories being studied including evolution, the origins of life, global warming, and human cloning.

Provides that such assistance shall include support and guidance for teachers regarding effective ways to help students understand, analyze, critique, and objectively review such scientific theories being studied.

Provides that a teacher shall teach material presented in the standard textbook supplied by the school system and thereafter may use textbooks and other instructional materials to help students understand, analyze, critique, and review scientific theories in an objective manner, as permitted by the local school board.

Provides that proposed law shall not be construed to promote any religious doctrine, promote discrimination for or against a particular set of religious beliefs, or promote discrimination for or against religion or nonreligion.

Requires BESE and local school boards to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act prior to the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:285.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill.

1. Specifies the scientific theories being studied include evolution, the origins of life, global warming, and human cloning.
2. Requires a teacher to first teach material presented in the standard textbook supplied by the school system and then authorizes him to use supplemental

textbooks and other instructional materials.