
DIGEST

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HB 330 Original

2015 Regular Session

Badon

Abstract: Provides for exceptions relative to nonpublic school eligibility requirements for the voucher program.

Present law provides for the Student Scholarships for Excellence Program (voucher program). Provides that to be eligible to participate in the program, a nonpublic school shall meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Be approved, provisionally approved, or probationally approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) pursuant to present law, R.S. 17:11.
- (2) Comply with the criteria set forth in *Brumfield, et al. v. Dodd, et al.* 425 F. Supp. 528.
- (3) Enrollment of scholarship recipients in a participating school that has been approved, provisionally approved, or probationally approved for less than two years shall not exceed 20% of such school's total enrollment.

Proposed law provides that enrollment of scholarship recipients in a nonpublic participating school that has been approved, provisionally approved, or probationally approved for less than two years may exceed 20% of the school's total student enrollment if the department determines that the governing authority of the school has demonstrated a proven record of successful operation and receives a positive recommendation pursuant to an independent evaluation of the governing authority's operations by a third party. Otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:4021(C); Adds R.S. 17:4021(D); Repeals R.S. 17:4021(A)(3))