2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 373

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEYMANN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

STUDENT/STANDARDS: Provides for the implementation of state content standards for public school students subject to legislative approval

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(E), relative to state content standards; to provide for implementation of state content standards by the state Department of Education subject to legislative approval; to require that the standards be promulgated by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act prior to implementation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

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E.(1) The state Department of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall develop and establish statewide state content standards for required subjects to be taught in the public elementary and secondary schools of this state.

(2)(a) The statewide state content standards for required subjects shall be implemented pursuant to this Subsection by the state Department of Education as approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, with

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recommendations prior to approval and advice from the educational personnel in the
public schools and colleges and universities of this state.

(b) Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, implementation of the
standards shall be subject to the approval of the standards by the legislature by
concurrent resolution adopted by a favorable vote of at least a majority of the elected
members of each house. If approved by the legislature, the initial standards shall be
implemented beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. The department shall
submit the standards to the legislature on or before March 1, 2017. The legislature
may recommend changes to the standards as it deems necessary or appropriate. Any
subsequent standards shall be submitted to the legislature on or before March first
of any given year and, if approved by the legislature, shall be implemented beginning
with the school year immediately following such submission. The department shall
not implement standards that have not been approved by the legislature in the
manner specified in this Subparagraph.

(c) Prior to implementation, standards approved by the legislature as
provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph shall be promulgated by the State
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with the
Administrative Procedure Act.

(2) (3) The governing authority of each public elementary and secondary
school may develop and implement curriculum, content, and methodology for
required subjects for the schools under its jurisdiction in lieu of the curriculum,
content, and methodology recommended by the state Department of Education or the
State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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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 373 Original 2015 Regular Session Geymann

Abstract: Provides for the implementation of state content standards for public school students subject to legislative approval.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to develop, with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), statewide content standards for required subjects for public elementary and secondary schools. Requires implementation of the standards by the department as approved by BESE, with recommendations prior to approval and advice from the educational personnel in the public schools and colleges and universities of this state.

Proposed law retains present law except makes implementation of the standards subject to legislative approval of the standards. Provides that if approved by the legislature, implementation shall begin with the 2017-2018 school year. Provides that the legislature may recommend changes to the standards prior to approval. Prohibits the implementation of standards that have not been approved by the legislature. Requires that prior to implementation, the standards shall be promulgated by BESE in accordance with the Admin. Procedure Act.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(E))