

SENATE BILL NO. 329

BY SENATOR CLAITOR

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5024(A), relative to the academic requirements for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to increase the minimum cumulative grade point average required for certain awards; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5024(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5024. Academic requirements

A.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

(a) For an Opportunity Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

(b) For a Performance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of ~~3.00~~ **3.25**.

(c) For an Honors Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of ~~3.00~~ **3.50**.

(d) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

(2)(a) For a student who graduated prior to the 2002-2003 school year, the minimum cumulative grade point average shall be calculated by using the grades obtained by the student in completing all classes taken.

(b) For a student who graduated prior to the 2007-2008 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point average necessary for such ~~students~~

1 student to be eligible for an initial a Performance Award or Honors Award shall be
 2 3.50 on a 4.00 scale.

3 (c)(i) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school
 4 year but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high
 5 school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for an
 6 Opportunity Award shall be 2.50 on a 4.00 scale.

7 (ii) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school
 8 year but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high
 9 school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for a
 10 Performance Award shall be 3.00 on a 4.00 scale.

11 (iii) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school
 12 year but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high
 13 school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for an
 14 Honors Award shall be 3.00 on a 4.00 scale.

15 (3)(a) The calculation of the minimum cumulative grade point average
 16 specified in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall utilize a five-point scale for grades
 17 earned in certain Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses,
 18 gifted and talented courses, honors courses, articulated courses for college credit, and
 19 dual enrollment courses as approved by the Board of Regents and the State Board of
 20 Elementary and Secondary Education, which may result in a student earning a
 21 cumulative grade point average that exceeds 4.00. For such courses, five quality
 22 points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "A", four quality points shall be assigned
 23 to a letter grade of "B", three quality points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "C",
 24 two quality points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "D", and zero quality points
 25 shall be assigned to a letter grade of "F".

26 (b) The provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph do not apply to
 27 students who graduated prior to the 2017-2018 school year.

28 * * *

29 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 30 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
3 effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____