

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2020 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Education to Original Senate Bill No. 481
by Senator Fields

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, delete lines 2 and 3 and insert the following:

3 "To amend and reenact the heading of Part IV of Chapter 50 of Title 17 of the
4 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 and to enact R.S. 17:8, 3351(M), and 5103,
5 relative to elementary, secondary, and"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 2

7 On page 1, delete lines 13 and 14 and insert the following:

8 "Section 1. The heading of Part IV of Chapter 50 of Title 17 of the Louisiana
9 Revised Statutes of 1950 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17.8, 3351(M),
10 and 5103 are hereby enacted to read as follows:"

11 AMENDMENT NO. 3

12 On page 2, line 2, after "schools" delete the remainder of the line, and on line 3, delete
13 students. The legislature further finds that it"

14 AMENDMENT NO. 4

15 On page 2, line 17, after relative" insert "to"

16 AMENDMENT NO. 5

17 On page 3, at the end of line 19, after "activities," insert "and"

18 AMENDMENT NO. 6

19 On page 3, delete lines 22 through 29, and delete all of page 4, and on page 5, delete lines
20 1 through 13, and insert the following:

21 "PART IV. STUDENTS ~~DISPLACED~~ **AFFECTED** BY CERTAIN
22 **NATURAL DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES**

23 * * *

24 **§5103. Eligibility under declared health emergency**

25 **A. The legislature finds that due to the effects of the public health**
26 **emergency declared by the governor on March 11, 2020, relative to the novel**
27 **coronavirus, COVID-19, it is in the best interest for the education of the people**
28 **of the state that initial and continuing eligibility requirements established in**
29 **Part I of this Chapter for awards pursuant to the Taylor Opportunity Program**
30 **for Students be modified as provided by this Section for students impacted as**
31 **a result of the public health emergency.**

32 **B.(1) In response to the public health emergency, provisions of this**
33 **Chapter that provide for initial eligibility are modified or waived as more fully**
34 **specified in this Subsection:**

35 **(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:5062, the deadline for**
36 **taking the ACT or SAT for consideration for an award for the 2020-2021**
37 **academic year is September 30, 2020. The administering agency shall not**
38 **reduce the time period of eligibility for the award, as set forth in R.S. 17:5002,**
39 **of an applicant who qualifies for an award pursuant to authority granted by this**
40 **Subparagraph.**

1 **(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:5026, a student on a Jump**
2 **Start graduation track shall not be required to complete any Jump Start course,**
3 **experience, or credential that was waived by the student's high school for high**
4 **school graduation purposes.**

5 **(c) The administering agency may waive the home study requirements**
6 **of R.S. 17:5029 for a student if it determines that the student's failure to meet**
7 **those requirements was, more likely than not, due solely to consequences of**
8 **measures taken to limit the spread of COVID-19.**

9 **(2) The provisions of this Subsection apply only to students who meet**
10 **one of the following criteria:**

11 **(a) The student was enrolled in a Louisiana public high school.**

12 **(b) The student was enrolled in a nonpublic high school in Louisiana**
13 **having the approval by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary**
14 **Education required by Part I of this Chapter for program eligibility purposes.**

15 **(c) The student resided in the state of Louisiana and was enrolled in a**
16 **home study program approved by the State Board of Elementary and**
17 **Secondary Education.**

18 **(d) The student resided out of state during the 2019-2020 academic year**
19 **but is able to meet the residency requirements to qualify for an award provided**
20 **for in R.S. 17:5023.**

21 **C.(1) In response to the public health emergency, provisions of this**
22 **Chapter relative to continuing eligibility are modified or waived with respect**
23 **to the 2019-2020 academic year as more fully specified in this Subsection:**

24 **(a) The provisions of R.S. 17:5041 or 5042 requiring that a student meet**
25 **steady academic progress as defined by the administering agency are waived.**

26 **(b) The provisions of R.S. 17:5041 or 5042 requiring that a student**
27 **achieve a certain cumulative grade point average to continue eligibility for his**
28 **award are waived.**

29 **(c) For a student whose program award was suspended due to a low**
30 **grade point average or failure to make steady academic progress, the time**
31 **periods provided in Part I of this Chapter for the student to meet such**
32 **requirement before losing program eligibility shall be extended by one semester**
33 **for each semester the student is unable to enroll or complete due to measures**
34 **taken to limit the spread of COVID-19.**

35 **(d) The administering agency may, by rule, waive any provision of Part**
36 **I of this Chapter that imposes a program requirement or condition that a**
37 **student cannot comply with or meet if the administering agency determines that**
38 **the failure to comply with the requirement or meet the condition is, more likely**
39 **than not, due solely to a consequence of measures taken to limit the spread of**
40 **COVID-19.**

41 **(2) The provisions of this Subsection apply only to students who meet**
42 **one of the following criteria:**

43 **(a) The student was enrolled full time as of the census date at an eligible**
44 **college or university during the spring semester of 2020.**

45 **(b) The student was enrolled full time at an out-of-state college or**
46 **university as of the census date during the spring semester of 2020.**

47 **(c) The student was scheduled to be enrolled full time at a school**
48 **operating on a basis other than semesters during the spring of 2020.**

49 **D. The administering agency may adopt any rule, policy, or guideline**
50 **necessary to implement the provisions of this Section and shall disseminate**
51 **information regarding program changes pursuant to the provisions of this**
52 **Section in the most timely manner possible."**