AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:7(2)(f), relative to the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide for the use of certain funding by public school boards provided through the minimum foundation program formula; to provide for uniform data collection and reporting requirements; to provide guidelines and standards for such reports; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.  R.S. 17:7(2)(f) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§7.  Duties, functions, and responsibilities of board

In addition to the authorities granted by R.S. 17:6 and any powers, duties, and responsibilities vested by any other applicable laws, the board shall:

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(2)

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(f)(i)  In addition to any other requirements of the minimum foundation program formula as most recently adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and approved by the legislature, the state board, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year and continuing thereafter, shall require each city, parish, or other local public school board to expend funds generated by applying the weighted factors contained in such formula for at-risk students, career and technical education course units, special education students other than gifted and talented
students, and gifted and talented students on personnel, professional services, instructional materials, equipment, and supplies that serve the unique needs of students who generate such funds and to submit annually a written report to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education that details the types of activities on which these funds were expended to serve the needs of the weighted students at all schools that serve such students. The information contained in such annual report shall be published on the state Department of Education website in an easily understandable format.

(ii) Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing thereafter, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall offer guidance and technical assistance to each city, parish, or other local public school board in making strategic fiscal decisions that promote improved student achievement. Such guidance and technical assistance shall include but not be limited to the identification of best practices in school finance that promote efficiency, economies of scale, and the use of comparative data to improve spending and educational outcomes.

(iii) Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing thereafter, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall annually publish revenue and expenditure data, including but not limited to the allocation and expenditure of funds generated by the minimum foundation program, local revenues, and federal grants, for each city, parish, or other local public school board by district and by school level, to the extent possible, in an easily understandable format on the state Department of Education website. Such data shall include but not be limited to comparative per pupil expenses reported by the school system for personnel, transportation, and other major categories of common expenditures as determined by the state Department of Education.

(iv) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish a system for the uniform collection and reporting of all data required by this Subparagraph.
(v) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, the term "city, parish, or other local public school board" shall mean the governing authority of any public elementary or secondary school.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____________________