

Regular Session, 2009

# ACT No. 310

HOUSE BILL NO. 821

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARTER, BARRAS, HENRY BURNS, CARMODY, CHAMPAGNE, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FOIL, GISCLAIR, HARDY, HOWARD, LANDRY, LEBAS, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, MONTOUCET, NOWLIN, PUGH, ROBIDEAUX, SIMON, SMILEY, JANE SMITH, TALBOT, WHITE, AND WILLMOTT AND SENATORS CROWE, DUPLESSIS, MICHOT, SMITH, AND WALSWORTH

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

1 AN ACT

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

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

10 §7. Duties, functions, and responsibilities of board

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

13 \* \* \*

14 (2)

15 \* \* \*

16 (f)(i) In addition to any other requirements of the minimum foundation  
17 program formula as most recently adopted by the State Board of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education and approved by the legislature, the state board, beginning with  
19 the 2010-2011 school year and continuing thereafter, shall require each city, parish,  
20 or other local public school board to expend funds generated by applying the  
21 weighted factors contained in such formula for at-risk students, career and technical  
22 education course units, special education students other than gifted and talented

1 students, and gifted and talented students on personnel, professional services,  
2 instructional materials, equipment, and supplies that serve the unique needs of  
3 students who generate such funds and to submit annually a written report to the State  
4 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education that details the types of activities on  
5 which these funds were expended to serve the needs of the weighted students at all  
6 schools that serve such students. The information contained in such annual report  
7 shall be published on the state Department of Education website in an easily  
8 understandable format.

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

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

26 (iv) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish  
27 a system for the uniform collection and reporting of all data required by this  
28 Subparagraph.

1                    (v) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, the term "city, parish, or other  
 2                    local public school board" shall mean the governing authority of any public  
 3                    elementary or secondary school.

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

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 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_