

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 381

BY REPRESENTATIVES GEYMANN AND POPE AND SENATOR KOSTELKA

STUDENT/STANDARDS: Creates the Student Standards Commission to develop state standards for required subjects for public school students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(A)(3) and (4), (E), (F)(3)(a) and (b)(ii), and (G)(2), to
3 enact R.S. 36:651(G)(4), and to repeal R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(d), relative to education
4 standards and related assessments; to create the Student Standards Commission to
5 develop and adopt state education standards for required subjects for public school
6 students; to provide for commission membership, vacancies, meetings, voting, and
7 compensation; to provide for implementation of the standards by the State Board of
8 Elementary and Secondary Education subject to legislative approval; to repeal
9 provisions relative to implementation of certain standards-based assessments by the
10 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to delete the requirement that
11 the state Department of Education develop and implement statewide content
12 standards for required subjects; and to provide for related matters.

13 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

14 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(A)(3) and (4), (E), (F)(3)(a) and (b)(ii), and (G)(2) are
15 hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

16 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for
17 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city
18 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

19 A. As used in this Section, the following words, terms, and phrases shall
20 have the meaning ascribed to them in this Subsection, except when the context
21 clearly indicates a different meaning:

22 * * *

- 1 (2) The membership of the commission shall be as follows:
- 2 (a) One member representing each of the following groups, organizations,
3 or entities selected by the respective group, organization, or entity:
- 4 (i) The Louisiana Association of Educators.
- 5 (ii) The Louisiana Federation of Teachers.
- 6 (iii) The Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana.
- 7 (iv) The Louisiana School Boards Association.
- 8 (v) The Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.
- 9 (vi) The Louisiana Association of Principals.
- 10 (vii) The Louisiana Association of School Executives.
- 11 (b) Two public school principals selected by the presiding officer of the
12 Louisiana Association of Principals.
- 13 (c) Two public elementary school teachers, one math teacher and one
14 English teacher, selected by the presiding officer of the Louisiana Association of
15 Principals.
- 16 (d) Two public high school teachers, one math teacher and one English
17 teacher, selected by the presiding officer of the Louisiana Association of Principals.
- 18 (e) Two supervisors of instruction employed in local school systems selected
19 by the president of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.
- 20 (f) Two parents of public school students selected by the Louisiana Parent-
21 Teacher Association.
- 22 (g) Two parents of public school students selected by the presiding officer of
23 the Louisiana Association of Principals.
- 24 (h) Two deans of colleges of education from Louisiana public postsecondary
25 education institutions, to be appointed by the commissioner of higher education.
- 26 (i) Two members of the teaching faculty in engineering, math, science, or
27 literature from Louisiana public postsecondary education institutions, to be
28 appointed by the commissioner of higher education.

1 (j) Two members of the board of directors of the Louisiana Association of
2 Chamber of Commerce Executives selected by the president of the board of
3 directors.

4 (k) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
5 or his designee.

6 (l) The state superintendent of education or his designee.

7 (m) The commissioner of higher education or his designee.

8 (n) The chairman of the House Committee on Education or his designee.

9 (o) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education or his designee.

10 (3) Appointed members of the commission shall serve at the pleasure of the
11 appointing authority. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original
12 appointment.

13 (4) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
14 shall convene the commission for its first meeting not later than August 30, 2014.

15 (5) The commission shall elect from among its members a chairman and
16 such other officers as it deems appropriate.

17 (6) A majority of the commission's total membership, as provided by this
18 Subsection, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A favorable
19 vote of two-thirds of the total membership is required for adoption of the standards
20 as required in this Subsection.

21 (7) All legislative members of the commission shall receive the same per
22 diem and travel allowance for attending meetings of the commission as is normally
23 provided for meetings of legislative committees. Other members of the commission
24 shall serve without compensation.

25 (8) The members selected pursuant to Subparagraphs (2)(a) through (j) of
26 this Subsection shall represent the geographic diversity of the state, to the extent
27 practical.

28 (9) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide
29 administrative and staff support to the commission.

1 (10) The commission shall be subject to the Public Records Law and the
2 Open Meetings Law.

3 (11) In developing the standards, the commission shall also consider and
4 may recommend the appropriate state assessments to be used to effectively measure
5 student achievement.

6 (12) The standards developed and adopted by the commission shall be
7 implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education through
8 rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with the Administrative Procedure
9 Act after the approval of the standards by the legislature by concurrent resolution
10 adopted by a favorable vote of at least a majority of the elected members of each
11 house. The state board shall submit the standards to the legislature on or before
12 March first of any given year. The legislature may return the standards to the state
13 board and include any recommendations for changes to the standards it deems
14 necessary or appropriate. Except as provided in Paragraph (13) of this Subsection,
15 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall not implement
16 standards that have not been approved by the legislature pursuant to this Paragraph.

17 (13) Until the implementation of the initial standards developed by the
18 commission and approved by the legislature as provided in this Subsection, the State
19 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall implement the state standards
20 used immediately prior to the adoption of the Common Core State Standards by the
21 board.

22 F.

23 * * *

24 (3)(a) In lieu of the standards-based assessments prescribed in
25 ~~Subparagraphs~~ Subparagraph (1)(c) and (d) of this Subsection, an alternate
26 assessment shall be provided for and administered only to those students with
27 disabilities who meet specific eligibility criteria developed by the state Department
28 of Education and approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
29 Education. A determination of whether any student meets the eligibility criteria

1 established by the state Department of Education shall be made by the student's
2 Individual Education Plan committee and shall be so noted on that student's
3 Individual Education Plan. The alternate assessment developed pursuant to this
4 Paragraph shall be administered on a schedule determined by the state Department
5 of Education and approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
6 Education. The alternate assessment shall be part of the Louisiana Education
7 Assessment Program otherwise provided for in this Subsection and the alternate
8 assessment shall be used for information, accountability, compliance, and planning
9 purposes as provided by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

10 (b)

11 * * *

12 (ii) Students with persistent academic disabilities shall be allowed to take
13 academic assessments that are sensitive to measuring progress in their learning and
14 that recognize their individual needs. Academic assessments are to be geared
15 specifically toward accommodating students to enable them to perform on standards-
16 based assessments prescribed in ~~Subparagraphs~~ Subparagraph (1)(c) and (d) of this
17 Subsection. Such accommodations shall include at a minimum verbalized test
18 questions and shall provide for writing assistance of a scribe and any other
19 accommodations deemed appropriate by the student's Individual Education Plan
20 committee. However, any such accommodations shall not breach test security or
21 invalidate the meaning of the test score or the purpose of the test.

22 * * *

23 G.

24 * * *

25 (2) Each ~~parish or city~~ local school board plan for pupil progression shall be
26 based upon local goals and objectives which are compatible with the Louisiana
27 Competency-Based Education Program ~~enumerated~~ described in ~~R.S. 17:24.4(B)~~
28 Subsection B of this Section, which comply with the provisions of ~~R.S.~~
29 ~~17:24.4(A)(3)~~ Paragraph (A)(3) of this Section, and which supplement the

the department to develop modified achievement standards and use alternative assessments for certain students with persistent academic disabilities. Proposed law retains present law except repeals present law requirement that the standards-based assessments in English language arts and math be based on nationally recognized content standards.

Proposed law creates the Students Standards Commission in the Dept. of Education to develop state standards for required subjects. Provides for commission membership, vacancies, meetings, voting, and compensation. Provides that the commission shall be subject to the Public Records Law and the Open Meetings Law. Provides that in developing the standards, the commission shall also consider and may recommend the appropriate assessments to be used to effectively measure student achievement.

Proposed law provides for implementation of the standards by BESE subject to legislative approval of the standards. Requires the state board to submit the standards to the legislature and provides that the legislature may return the standards and include any recommendations for changes. Provides that if the legislature fails to finally approve the initial standards developed and adopted by the commission, BESE shall implement the state standards used immediately prior to BESE's adoption of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Further provides that the legislature shall approve any subsequent changes to the standards before they can be implemented.

Proposed law deletes requirement that the state Dept. of Education develop and implement the statewide content standards for required subjects.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(A)(3) and (4), (E), (F)(3)(a) and (b)(ii), and (G)(2); Adds R.S. 36:651(G)(4); Repeals R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(d))