

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 312

BY SENATOR CROWE

STUDENTS. Enacts the "Parents' Bill of Rights". (8/1/14)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:406.9, relative to the rights of parents of public school children; to establish the "Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools"; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for the disclosure of student records to parents; to provide for the disclosure of curriculum and instructional materials; to provide for notification; to restrict the use of surveys; to provide for the limitation of controversial instruction; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:406.9 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§406.9. Parents' Bill of Rights for Pubic Schools

A. The legislature finds that respecting the right of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children is a fundamental right.

B. Parents of public school children shall have all of the following rights:

(1) To examine the textbooks, lesson plans, curriculum, and supplemental material used in their child's classroom.

(2) To inspect their child's school records, including all of the following:

(a) Academic records.

- 1 **(b) Medical or health records.**
- 2 **(c) Records of any mental health counseling.**
- 3 **(d) Records of any vocational counseling.**
- 4 **(3) To be notified when medical services are being offered to their child.**
- 5 **(4) To be notified if a criminal action is deemed to have been committed**
- 6 **against their child.**
- 7 **(5) To be notified before the school allows law enforcement personnel**
- 8 **to question their child.**
- 9 **(6) To be notified before their child is taken or removed from the school**
- 10 **campus.**
- 11 **(7) To request and expect their child's family religious beliefs to be**
- 12 **respected.**
- 13 **(8) To receive written notice and the option to opt their child out of any**
- 14 **surveys that include invasive questions about any of the following:**
- 15 **(a) The student's sexual experiences or attractions.**
- 16 **(b) The student's family beliefs, morality, religion, or political**
- 17 **affiliations.**
- 18 **(c) Any mental health or psychological problems of the student or a**
- 19 **family member.**
- 20 **(9) To receive written notice and have the option to opt their child out**
- 21 **of controversial instruction on topics associated with sexual activity.**

22 Section 2. This Act shall be known as the "Parents' Bill of Rights for Public
23 Schools".

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

DIGEST

Crowe (SB 312)

Proposed law establishes the "Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools".

Proposed law provides that the legislature finds that parents have a fundamental right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.

Proposed law provides that the parents of public school children shall have all of the following rights:

- (1) To examine the textbooks, lesson plans, curriculum and supplemental material used in their child's classroom.
- (2) Inspect their child's school records, including academic records, medical or health records, records of any mental health counseling, or records of any vocational counseling.
- (3) To be notified when medical services are being offered to their child.
- (4) To be notified if a criminal action is deemed to have been committed against their child.
- (5) To be notified before the school allows law enforcement personnel question their child.
- (6) To be notified before their child is taken or removed from the school campus.
- (7) To request and expect their child's family religious beliefs to be respected.
- (8) To receive written notice and the option to opt their child out of any surveys that include invasive questions about student's sexual experiences or attractions, the student's family beliefs, morality, religion, or political affiliations as well as any mental health or psychological problems of the student or a family member.
- (9) To receive written notice and have the option to opt their child out of controversial instruction on topics associated with sexual activity.

Proposed law provides that the Act shall be known as the "Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools".

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 17:406.9)