

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 137

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

SCHOOLS/CHOICE: Prohibits the state Dept. of Education from awarding first-time vouchers to students

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:4026, relative to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence
3 Program; to prohibit the state Department of Education from awarding scholarships
4 to students who have not previously received a scholarship; to provide for
5 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:4026 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §4026. Scholarship awarding; prohibited

9 For the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter, the department shall only
10 award a scholarship to a student who was a scholarship recipient in a previous school
11 year.

12 Section 2. A scholarship awarded by the state Department of Education to a student
13 who would otherwise be a first-time scholarship recipient for the 2016-2017 school year is
14 null and void.

15 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
16 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
17 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
18 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
19 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 137 Original

2016 Regular Session

Smith

Abstract: Prohibits, for the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter, the state Dept. of Education from awarding first-time vouchers to students.

Present law establishes a voucher program known as the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program. Provides for student and school eligibility requirements, funding and payment procedures, program administration, and testing and reporting requirements. Proposed law prohibits the state Dept. of Education from awarding a scholarship to a student unless he has received one previously and provides that a scholarship awarded by the department to a student who would otherwise be a first-time scholarship recipient for the 2016-2017 school year is null and void.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:4026)