

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 448

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY: Provides relative to the use of student test scores and diploma types in calculations of performance scores for the school and district accountability system

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:10.1(J), relative to school and district accountability; to provide for equal
3 weight to be granted in calculations of school and district performance scores in
4 categories related to certain test scores and diploma attainment; and to provide for
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:10.1(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §10.1. School and district accountability system; purpose; responsibilities of state
9 board

10 * * *

11 J. For purposes of calculations made pursuant to the school and district
12 accountability system, an equal number of points shall be assigned for students
13 within the following categories:

14 (1) For points based on ACT scores, all students whose composite score on
15 the ACT is within the range of minimum scores required to qualify students for a
16 TOPS-Tech Award or Opportunity Award as provided by R.S. 17:5024.

17 (2) For points based on the diploma earned, all students who earned a high
18 school diploma in four years, regardless of the type of diploma, curriculum
19 completed, achievement of certain scores in advanced classes, credentials earned, or

1 attainment of any postsecondary degree while in high school. Relative to the
2 curriculum completed, no distinction shall be made between students who
3 successfully complete the core curriculum required to qualify for an Opportunity,
4 Performance, or Honors Award as provided by R.S. 17:5025 and those who
5 successfully complete the core curriculum required to qualify for a TOPS-Tech
6 Award pursuant to R.S. 17:5026.

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 448 Original

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Cox

Abstract: Requires equal weight to be granted in certain test score and diploma categories for purposes of calculating school and district performance scores.

Present law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to provide for a system of school and district accountability and for the assignment of letter grades to each school and district based on BESE's method of determining performance scores. (Such method is provided in BESE policy.) Proposed law adds that for purposes of calculations made pursuant to this system, the same number of points shall be awarded for students in the following categories:

- (1) Those whose composite score on the ACT is within the range of minimum scores required to qualify students for a TOPS-Tech Award or Opportunity Award as provided by the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) program.
- (2) Those earning a high school diploma in four years, regardless of the type of diploma, curriculum completed, achievement of certain scores in advanced classes, credentials earned, or attainment of any postsecondary degrees while in high school. Relative to the curriculum completed, no distinction shall be made between students who successfully complete the core curriculum required to qualify for a TOPS Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award and those who successfully complete the core curriculum required to qualify for a TOPS-Tech Award.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.1(J))