
DIGEST

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HB 321 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Wyble

Abstract:

Provides for teacher certification and professional development with respect to numeracy.

Proposed law provides that proposed law shall be known and may be cited as "The Louisiana Numeracy and Excellence (LANE) Act".

Certification

Proposed law requires applicants for teacher certification to meet at least one of these requirements:

- (1) Complete the prescribed number of semester hours in the teaching of foundational numeracy as established in State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rule.
- (2) Complete numeracy training appropriate to the certification area and approved by the state Dept. of Education (DOE).

Proposed law further requires an applicant who is applying for initial certification to teach kindergarten through eighth grade to have completed either the prescribed number of semester hours in accordance with proposed law or present law numeracy training.

Proposed law provides for proposed law implementation beginning on Sept. 1, 2028.

Professional Development

Present law requires professional development in numeracy instruction for fourth through eighth grade teachers. Proposed law expands this requirement to apply also to kindergarten through third grade teachers and additionally requires numeracy coaches for, at a minimum, kindergarten through third grade teachers.

Present law and proposed law relative to professional development and numeracy coaches are subject to the allocation of funds by DOE. Present law prohibits state or obligated funds from being used for implementation. Proposed law allows state and federal funds to be used for implementation if numeracy-related expenditures are allowable under relevant funding guidelines.

Present law provides that nothing in present law shall be construed to extend the hours in the teacher's work day nor the hours worked in a year. Proposed law retains present law and applies it to proposed law and additionally authorizes a public school governing authority to offer a stipend for completion of numeracy training outside of a teacher's normal work day or a combination of a stipend and job-embedded training time.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.13(A)(2), (B)(2) and (3), and (C) through (E); Adds R.S. 17:8.1(A)(8) and 24.13(F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Provide that proposed law shall be known and may be cited as "The Louisiana Numeracy and Excellence (LANE) Act".