

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 180

BY SENATOR BARROW

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Provides for a pioneering STEM technology program known as "Farm-Ed". (8/1/25)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:185.6 and to enact R.S. 17:185.7, relative to agricultural education; to provide for the creation of the Farm-Ed pilot program; to provide relative to funding and effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:185.6 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:185.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§185.6. Effectiveness

The agricultural education immersion pilot program and Farm-Ed pilot program established pursuant to this Subpart shall be implemented as expeditiously as possible through any source of funding made available for this purpose.

§185.7. Farm-Ed Program; pilot

A. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in collaboration with the state Department of Education, shall assist with creating a pilot program known as Farm-Ed, to provide for the integration of controlled environment grow chambers and corresponding curriculum in kindergarten through twelfth grade classrooms.

1 **B. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the**
2 **state Department of Education shall adopt rules and regulations for the**
3 **administration of the program which shall, at a minimum, provide for the**
4 **following:**

5 **(1) Determination of participating schools.**

6 **(2) Allocation of funds from funds appropriated or otherwise made**
7 **available for the program.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 180 Engrossed

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Barrow

Present law (R.S. 17:185.6) provides that implementation of the agricultural education immersion pilot program must be implemented as expeditiously as possible through any source of funding made available for that purpose.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that implementation of the Farm-Ed pilot program will also be implemented as expeditiously as possible through any source of funding made available for that purpose.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:185.7) requires BESE to assist with creating a pilot program to provide for the establishment of the Farm-Ed program which provides kindergarten through 12th grade classrooms with controlled environment grow chambers and corresponding curriculum.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 17:185.6; adds R.S. 17:185.7)