

SENATE BILL NO. 207

BY SENATORS CARTER, EDMONDS, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MIGUEZ AND  
MIZELL AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, BRASS, CARLSON,  
EDMONSTON, FREIBERG, TERRY LANDRY, OWEN, TAYLOR  
AND YOUNG

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

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:183.4 and 3996(B)(4), relative to public high schools; to require that  
certain public school students have access to vocational and technical education  
courses; to provide for agreements; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:183.4 and 3996(B)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§183.4. Vocational and technical education; partnering with other schools to  
provide courses**

**A. All public high schools shall provide students the opportunity to enroll  
in available vocational and technical education courses.**

**B.(1) If a high school does not offer vocational and technical education  
courses, the governing authority of the school may enter into agreements to  
partner with other public schools or with one or more two-year public  
postsecondary education institutions in the state or with nonprofit proprietary  
schools or Course Choice providers approved by the State Board of Elementary  
and Secondary Education to provide available vocational and technical  
education courses for the student as required in Subsection A of this Section.  
Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to supersede R.S. 17:4002.1 et seq.**

**(2) If the high school's approved mission or curriculum model does not  
align with providing vocational and technical education courses, the governing  
authority of the school may request a waiver from the State Board of  
Elementary and Secondary Education of the requirements of Subsection A of  
this Section.**

**(3) No student shall be assessed a course fee when the local education agency receives career development funds in the minimum foundation program for such course.**

**C. All public high schools shall advise students of the availability of the TOPS Tech Early Start Award for eligible students and shall provide information on the eligibility criteria of the award.**

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### §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

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B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

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**(4) Vocational and technical education (R.S. 17:183.4).**

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: