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## DIGEST

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HB 272 Original

2026 Regular Session

Carver

**Abstract:** Expands student eligibility for the R.E.A.D. program to include those attending "D" or "F" schools and requires the state Dept. of Education to deliver books to these schools and the schools to distribute books and related materials.

Present law provides for the R.E.A.D. (Reading Enrichment and Academic Deliverables) Program, administered by the state Dept. of Education (DOE) and established to provide books to each student who meets one of the following criteria:

- (1) He is in prekindergarten and does not score satisfactorily on the literacy section of the early childhood assessment.
- (2) He is in grades K-3 and reads below grade level.
- (3) He is in grades 4-5 and scored below mastery in English language arts (ELA) on the prior school year's state assessment.
- (4) His eligibility based on screeners or assessments cannot be determined but he is recommended by his ELA teacher.

Proposed law extends eligibility to a student who meets any of the present law criteria or is enrolled at a school that received a performance letter grade of "D" or "F" the most recent school year. Requires DOE to provide for the quarterly shipment of books directly to such schools and requires the schools to ensure that books and supplemental resources are provided to each student. Requires DOE to determine the specific content and format of such resources.

(Amends R.S. 17:4033.1(B)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:4033.1(B)(5) and (C)(7))