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## DIGEST

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HB 690 Original

2026 Regular Session

Amedee

**Abstract:** Prohibits the participation of schools and service providers with ties to foreign terrorist organizations or foreign adversaries in the LA GATOR program.

Proposed law prohibits:

- (1) An education agency from knowingly contracting with an education service provider ("provider") or a vendor of educational products ("vendor") who is a foreign adversary, a foreign terrorist organization, or an agent thereof.
- (2) A provider or vendor from knowingly subcontracting with a foreign adversary, an agent of a foreign adversary, a foreign terrorist organization, or an agent of a foreign terrorist organization.

Proposed law provides that knowingly acting as an agent, proxy, or contractor of a foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization is prohibited conduct which renders the agent, proxy, or contractor ineligible to contract with an education agency or a primary contractor of an education agency.

Proposed law provides that providing material support or funds to a foreign adversary or a foreign terrorist organization is prohibited conduct which renders the person ineligible to contract with an education agency or a primary contractor of an education agency.

Proposed law provides if an education agency becomes aware that a provider or vendor is a foreign adversary, a foreign terrorist organization, or an agent thereof, the education agency shall immediately notify the attorney general and suspend payments to the provider or vendor pending due process review as provided in proposed law.

Proposed law provides that subject to the due process rights provided in proposed law, if it is determined that a provider or vendor is not qualified to contract with an education agency pursuant to proposed law, then the provider or vendor shall return any payments received on or after the provider or vendor became ineligible due to a violation of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that a provider or vendor that is denied a contract with an education agency or has a contract that is suspended pursuant to proposed law is entitled to avail itself of all administrative due process rights and legal redress as provided in present law (La. Procurement Code or Public Bid Law, as applicable).

Proposed law provides that beginning on July 1, 2026, each education agency shall include in all contracts with providers or vendors a statement that the provisions of proposed law apply to the contract and any payments made thereto. Requires that the contract provision also require the provider or vendor to agree not to engage in conduct that would violate proposed law during the term of the contract and that such prohibited conduct will result in an immediate suspension of payments and be subject to debt collection as provided in proposed law.

Proposed law authorizes an education agency to seek the opinion of the attorney general as to whether a provider or vendor is prohibited from contracting with the education agency pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law provides that if, pursuant to proposed law, a provider or vendor is deemed ineligible to contract or is determined to have engaged in conduct which renders the provider or vendor ineligible or disqualified under the contract and the contractor does not return any payments that are recoverable, pursuant to proposed law, then notice of the recoverable debt shall be turned over to the attorney general who, in conjunction with the office of debt recovery within the Dept. of Revenue, shall institute recovery and collection of the debt.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:410.17-410.23)