

SENATE BILL NO. 504

BY SENATOR CARTER AND REPRESENTATIVES BROUSSARD, CARVER,
FREIBERG, TERRY LANDRY, MARTINEZ, SCHLEGEL AND
TAYLOR

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2925(A)(2) and (4) through (7) and to enact R.S.
3 17:2925(A)(8) and (9) and (D), and 3996(B)(92), relative to Individual Graduation
4 Plans; to provide relative to requirements pertaining to such plans for students
5 attending certain charter schools; to provide relative to information on vocational
6 training opportunities; to provide for parent and legal guardian requesting authority;
7 to provide relative to resources; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:2925(A)(2) and (4) through (7) are hereby amended and reenacted
10 and R.S. 17:2925(A)(8) and (9) and (D), and 3996(B)(92) are hereby enacted to read as
11 follows:

12 §2925. Individual graduation plans

13 A.(1) * * *

14 **(2)(a) By Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, by**
15 the end of the eighth grade, each student's Individual Graduation Plan or the student's
16 Individualized Education Program, if applicable, shall list the required core courses
17 to be taken through the tenth grade and shall identify the courses to be taken in the
18 first year of high school. Students who fail to meet the standard for promotion to the
19 ninth grade, pursuant to policies adopted by the State Board of Elementary and
20 Secondary Education, shall have any necessary remedial courses included in their
21 Individual Graduation Plan.

22 **(b)(i) A charter school that terminates in the eighth grade shall provide**
23 **written notice to each eighth grade student and his parent or legal guardian of**
24 **the purpose of an Individual Graduation Plan, an explanation of the different**
25 **types of high school diplomas, and the courses required for each type of diploma**
26 **so that the student is prepared to complete his plan with the list of required**

1 courses to be taken upon the student's enrollment in high school but no later
 2 than October first of the student's ninth grade year.

3 (ii) A charter school that terminates in the eighth grade may partner
 4 with a high school that an eighth grade student plans to attend for assistance in
 5 providing for the student's Individual Graduation Plan or Individualized
 6 Education Program, if applicable, as provided in Subparagraph (a) of this
 7 Paragraph.

8 * * *

9 (4) The parent or legal guardian of a student entering into the eleventh
 10 grade may request the student's Individual Graduation Plan or the student's
 11 Individualized Education Program, if applicable, be updated.

12 (5) Each student, with the assistance of his parent or legal guardian and
 13 school counselor, shall be offered available vocational training opportunities.

14 ~~(4)~~(6) The Individual Graduation Plan shall be sufficiently flexible to allow
 15 the student to, with the written approval of a parent or legal guardian, change his
 16 program of study, yet be sufficiently structured to ensure that the student will meet
 17 the high school graduation requirements for his chosen major or the requirements of
 18 the student's Individualized Education Program, if applicable, and be qualified for
 19 admission to a postsecondary education institution or to enter the workforce.

20 ~~(5)~~(7) Each student's Individual Graduation Plan shall be reviewed annually
 21 and revised as necessary to identify the courses to be taken each year until all
 22 required core courses are completed.

23 ~~(6)~~(8) Upon completion of the review, the plan shall be signed by the student,
 24 his parent or legal guardian, and the school counselor.

25 ~~(7)~~(9) Prior to revising a student's Individual Graduation Plan, the school
 26 counselor shall meet with the student's parent or legal guardian either in person or
 27 virtually to explain the possible impacts the revisions to the plan might have on the
 28 student's graduation requirements and postsecondary education goals. Any revisions
 29 to a student's plan shall be approved in writing by the student's parent or legal
 30 guardian.

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D. To effectuate the provisions of this Section, schools shall use existing school staff and counselors and any other available resources.

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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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(92) Individual graduation plans, R.S. 17:2925.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____