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## DIGEST

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Bowler

HB No. 2393

Present law requires the office of public health, Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH), to establish an adolescent school health initiative to facilitate and encourage development of comprehensive health centers in public middle and secondary schools in Louisiana which shall provide preventive health services, counseling, acute health services, and appropriate referral for acute health services. Provides that such initiative shall be subject to the approval of the local school systems. Further provides for the responsibility of the office of public health.

Present law prohibits health centers in schools from:

- (1) Counseling or advocating abortion in any way or referring any student to any organization for counseling or advocating abortion.
- (2) Distributing at any public school any contraceptive or abortifacient drug, device, or other similar product.

Proposed law retains present law and, in addition, prohibits health centers in schools from:

- (1) Referring any student to any organization for the distribution of any contraceptive or abortifacient drug, device, or other similar product.
- (2) Counseling any student relative to any contraceptive or abortifacient drug, device, or other similar product or referring any student to an organization for such counseling.

Proposed law requires the office of public health to also:

- (1) Require all consent forms that require the signature of the parent or guardian of a student to state the prohibitions provided in present law and proposed law.
- (2) Require the name and telephone number of a person who is to be contacted to report a violation to be included on the consent forms provided by the department.
- (3) Require school-based health centers to conspicuously post signs in the center which state that the center is prohibited from counseling or referring students for abortions, from distributing or counseling a student relative to any type of contraceptive or abortifacient, or referring a student for such distribution or counseling. Such signs shall include a telephone number for reporting any violations.
- (4) Require all employees of school-based health centers to sign a statement acknowledging their limitations regarding the counseling or referring of students for abortions, distributing or counseling relative to contraceptives or abortifacients, and referring a student for such distribution or counseling.
- (5) Require all requests for proposals to establish a school-based health center to clearly recite state law relative to the counseling or referring

of students for abortions, distributing or counseling relative to contraceptives or abortifacients, and referring a student for such distribution or counseling.

- (6) Require all contracts between the Dept. of Health and Hospitals, office of public health, and providers for the operation of school-based health centers to clearly recite state law relative to the counseling or referring of students for abortions, distributing or counseling relative to contraceptives or abortifacients, and referring a student for such distribution or counseling and to clearly recite any sanctions which may be imposed against a school-based health center if violations occur.

Present law provides that the provisions of present law are applicable only to the extent that funds are made available for the purpose from public or private sources.

Proposed law retains present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 40:31.3(D); Adds R.S. 40:31.3(C)(3) and (4) and (E))