

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1000

BY REPRESENTATIVE TALBOT

SCHOOLS/CHOICE: Provides relative to student eligibility requirements for the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence (voucher) Program

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:4013(2)(d), relative to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence
3 Program; to provide that a student is eligible for program participation if his parent
4 or legal guardian determines that the public school he is attending is not a safe
5 environment; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:4013(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §4013. Definitions

9 As used in this Chapter, unless otherwise clearly indicated, the following
10 terms mean:

11 * * *

12 (2) "Eligible student" means a student who resides in Louisiana, is a member
13 of a family with a total income that does not exceed two hundred fifty percent of the
14 current federal poverty guidelines as established by the federal office of management
15 and budget, and who meets any one of the following criteria:

16 * * *

17 (d) The student's parent or legal guardian determines that the public school
18 the student is attending is not a safe environment for the student due to the
19 occurrence of any of the following:

20 (i) Acts or threats of violence.

- 1 (ii) Bullying, including cyberbullying.
- 2 (iii) The use of alcohol beverages or illegal drugs.
- 3 (iv) Arson.
- 4 (v) Sexual activity.
- 5 (vi) Theft of personal property.
- 6 (vii) Excessive disciplinary referrals or classroom disruptions.
- 7 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Talbot

HB No. 1000

Abstract: Provides that a student is eligible for a voucher from the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program if his parent or legal guardian determines that the public school he is attending is not a safe environment.

Present law, relative to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program, defines "eligible student" as a student who resides in La., is a member of a family with a total income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, and who meets any one of the following criteria:

- (1) Is entering kindergarten and has enrolled in the local school system in which the public school he would have otherwise attended is located or has enrolled in a school under the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District (RSD).
- (2) Was enrolled in a public school in La. the previous school year and such school received a letter grade of "C", "D", or "F" or any variation thereof, for the most recent year pursuant to the school and district accountability system.
- (3) Received a scholarship in the previous school year.

Proposed law retains present law and adds as an eligible student, a student whose parent or legal guardian determines that the public school the student is attending is not a safe environment due to the occurrence of any of the following:

- (1) Acts or threats of violence.
- (2) Bullying, including cyberbullying.
- (3) The use of alcohol beverages or illegal drugs.
- (4) Arson.
- (5) Sexual activity.
- (6) Theft of personal property.

(7) Excessive disciplinary referrals or classroom disruptions.

(Adds R.S. 17:4013(2)(d))