DIGEST

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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.

<u>Present law</u>, 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.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> 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))