

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

To enact Chapter 42 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 46:2551 through 2553, relative to sex education programs; to provide for legislative findings; to require certain agencies to meet and review state programs aimed at reducing teen pregnancy and preventing the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; to require the agencies to review available programs aimed at reducing teen pregnancy and preventing the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; to require a written report to the legislature; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Chapter 42 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 46:2551 through 2553, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2551. Declaration of purpose

(1) It is imperative to protect and assist the youth of Louisiana if this state  
move forward and realize its potential in the future.

(2) It is imperative to reduce the rate of teen pregnancies and prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases among the youth of Louisiana in order to build stronger families and a healthier future for Louisiana.

1                   (3) In order to improve the lives of Louisiana families and ensure a better  
2                   future for youth of Louisiana, it is imperative for state agencies to collaborate to  
3                   create a comprehensive strategy to reduce the rate of teen pregnancies and prevent  
4                   the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases among the youth of  
5                   Louisiana.

6                   §2552. Prevention of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; agency  
7                   cooperation

8                   A. The state superintendent of education, the secretary of the Department of  
9                   Children and Family Services, and the secretary of the Department of Health and  
10                  Hospitals shall meet together not less than twice annually to review and evaluate the  
11                  effectiveness of current state programs, including but not limited to sex education  
12                  provided by public schools, aimed at reducing the rate of teen pregnancy and  
13                  preventing the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases among the  
14                  youth of Louisiana.

15                  B. The state superintendent of education, the secretary of the Department of  
16                  Children and Family Services, and the secretary of the Department of Health and  
17                  Hospitals shall review and evaluate any programs that are available for  
18                  implementation in Louisiana to educate the youth of Louisiana about the importance  
19                  of preventing teen pregnancy and the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted  
20                  diseases by providing culturally competent education and outreach.

21                  §2553. Report

22                  The state superintendent of education, the secretary of the Department of  
23                  Children and Family Services, and the secretary of the Department of Health and  
24                  Hospitals, jointly, shall submit a written report of their findings and  
25                  recommendations, including proposed legislation if necessary, for a comprehensive  
26                  strategy to reduce the rate of teen pregnancy and prevent the spread of HIV and other  
27                  sexually transmitted diseases among the youth of Louisiana on an annual basis to the  
28                  legislature not later than sixty days prior to the commencement of the regular  
29                  legislative session. Any recommendations made by the state superintendent of  
30                  education, the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, and the

1            secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals shall be in accordance with the  
2            provisions of R.S. 17:281.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_