

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 320

2019 Regular Session

Simon

HEALTH/BEHAVIORAL: Provides for access to applied behavior analysis providers in schools

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Specify that applied behavior analysis services provided to students shall be those that are medically necessary.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law prohibits a public school governing authority from denying student access to behavioral health service providers at school during school hours if requested by the student's parent or legal guardian. Requires such governing authorities to adopt policies to implement present law that include requirements for providers relative to liability insurance coverage, criminal background checks, compliance with students' specific education, behavior, or health plans, reporting students' progress, submission of behavioral health evaluations by parents, and other specified matters. Defines "behavioral health provider" and "behavioral health services" and other terms for purposes of present law.

Proposed law adds "applied behavior analysis provider" to present law definition of "behavioral health provider" in order to allow access to such providers for students in school upon the parent's request. Further adds "applied behavior analysis services" to present law definition of "behavioral health services".

In addition, proposed law:

- (1) Requires public school governing authorities to make their policies available to the public.
- (2) Provides that behavioral health evaluations include recommendations for applied behavior analysis services.
- (3) Provides that present law and proposed law shall not supercede present law relative to the licensing of behavioral health services providers or any regulation of the La. Dept. of Health related thereto or present law relative to the practice of behavior analysts.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:173(A)(2)(intro. para.), (B), and (C))