

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2022 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Education to Original Senate Bill No. 203
by Senator Hewitt

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "To" and before "enact" insert "amend and reenact R.S. 17:236(A)
and to"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 11, after "Section 1." insert "R.S. 17:236(A) is hereby amended and
reenacted and"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following:

"§236. Definition of a school

A. For the purposes of this Chapter, a school is defined as an institution for the teaching of children, consisting of an adequate physical plant, whether owned or leased, instructional staff members, and students. For such an institution to be classified as a school, within the meaning of this Chapter, instructional staff members shall meet the following requirements: if a public day school or a nonpublic school which receives local, state, or federal funds or support, directly or indirectly, they shall be certified in accordance with rules established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; if a nonpublic school which receives no local, state, or federal funds or support, directly or indirectly, they shall meet such requirements as may be prescribed by the school or the church. In addition, except as otherwise provided in Subsection B of this Section, any such institution, to be classified as a school, shall operate a minimum session of not less than one hundred eighty days. Solely for purposes of compulsory attendance in a nonpublic school, a child who participates in a home study program approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be considered in attendance at a day school; a home study program shall be approved if it offers a sustained curriculum of a quality at least equal to that offered by public schools at the same grade level. **Solely for purposes of compulsory attendance in a nonpublic school, a child shall be considered in attendance at a day school if the child is eligible to participate in the Reading Education Savings Account Program pursuant to R.S. 17:4037.4 and the child's parent has signed an agreement pursuant to R.S. 17:4037.4(A)(3).**

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AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, delete lines 19 and 20, and insert the following:

"(b) Instructional or tutoring services."

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, delete lines 25 and 26, on line 27, change "(11)" to "(10)", and on page 3, line 1, change "(12)" to "(11)"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 3, delete line 7, and insert the following:

1 **"B. The department shall administer the program, and shall be authorized to**
2 **withhold up to five percent of funds allocated to each account annually for the purposes**
3 **of program administration.**

4 **C. The state board"**

5
6 AMENDMENT NO. 7

7 On page 3, line 18, change "**nonprofit organization**" to "**vendor**"

8 AMENDMENT NO. 8

9 On page 3, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

10 **"(c) Contract with a vendor to manage the payment system provided for**
11 **in R.S. 17:4073.3(A)(2).**

12 **(d) Provide parents or legal guardians of eligible students printed or**
13 **online resources and materials regarding the importance of reading and how to**
14 **support their child in learning to read.**

15 **(4) Enrollment of participating students no later than the 2023-2024**
16 **school year."**

17 AMENDMENT NO. 9

18 On page 3, at the end of line 25, insert the following:

19 **"The amount allocated to an account shall be appropriately prorated if a**
20 **student transfers into the program after the beginning of a school year."**

21 AMENDMENT NO. 10

22 On page 3, delete lines 28 and 29, and insert the following:

23 **"house transfer, or another method."**

24 AMENDMENT NO. 11

25 On page 4, delete lines 12 through 14 and lines 16 through 18, and before line 19, insert the
26 following:

27 **"A. A student is initially eligible for an account if he is currently enrolled**
28 **in or completed, during the prior school year, the second or third grade at a**
29 **Louisiana public school and meets all of the following:"**

30 AMENDMENT NO. 12

31 On page 4, line 20, change "**current school year**" to "**second or third grade**"

32 AMENDMENT NO. 13

33 On page 4, at the end of line 21, before the period "." insert the following:

34 **", and has been tested for a learning disability and the results have been**
35 **provided to the parent of the student and to the school in which the student is**
36 **enrolled"**

37 AMENDMENT NO. 14

38 On page 5, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

39 **"(iv) To acknowledge receipt of and utilize any and all online resources**
40 **provided by the department to support their child's progress in reading."**

1 AMENDMENT NO. 15

2 On page 5, line 3, change "(iv)" to "(v)"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 16

4 On page 5, at the end of line 5, insert the following:

5 **"However, the parent of a participating student shall ensure the student**
6 **is complying with the attendance requirements of the participating school or**
7 **service provider. Each participating student who fails to comply with such**
8 **attendance requirements shall be reported to the state director of child welfare**
9 **and attendance by the participating school or service provider and shall be**
10 **subject to the provisions of R.S. 17:233."**

11 AMENDMENT NO. 17

12 On page 5, line 9, between "in" and "the" insert "**any education savings account program**
13 **provided in this Title and**"

14 AMENDMENT NO. 18

15 On page 5, between lines 27 and 28, insert the following:

16 **"D. If the department finds that a participating school or service**
17 **provider has failed to maintain continuing eligibility criteria or has**
18 **demonstrated gross or a persistent lack of academic competence, the**
19 **department shall restrict the school's ability to serve additional students and**
20 **may be terminated from the program. Such action shall be reported to the state**
21 **board within three business days."**

22 AMENDMENT NO. 19

23 On page 7, line 21, before the period "." insert the following:

24 **", including the performance in reading as compared to state and**
25 **national norms provided for the test"**

26 AMENDMENT NO. 20

27 On page 7, between lines 24 and 25, insert the following:

28 **"(7) The results of a parental satisfaction survey.**
29 **(8) The amount withheld by the department for administration of the**
30 **program, including the amount retained by the department, the amount paid**
31 **to vendors for the administration of the program and the amount paid to**
32 **vendors for managing the payment system."**