The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

DIGEST

SB 59 Original | 2024 Regular Session | Fields

Proposed law requires that each city, parish, or other local public school board and each postsecondary education institution provide at least one mental health counselor for all high school and college student athletes in accordance with guidelines established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Board of Regents.

Proposed law requires that each school board employ or contract with at least one mental health counselor for high school athletes. The school board, however, is not prohibited from hiring or contracting with more than one mental health counselor.

Proposed law requires that the mental health counselors be licensed pursuant to the Louisiana Mental Health Counselor Licensing Act.

Proposed law provides that the mental health counselors provide preventive and manageable counseling services to the student athletes in order to address concerns about mental health at any given time with regard to the athlete's psychological and emotional well being. The mental health counselor is to be made available to the student athletes when requested by a parent, guardian, teacher, counselor, coach, or other school employee.

Proposed law provides that BESE and the Board of Regents is to annually report to the legislature on the implementation and effectiveness of proposed law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3007 and 3714)