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## DIGEST

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HB 452 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

St. Blanc

**Abstract:** Provides for the termination of the TOPS-Tech award beginning with the 2029-2030 award year.

Present law provides for provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) as a merit scholarship program. Provides for four award levels, one of which is TOPS-Tech, a two-year award.

Proposed law:

- (1) Terminates the TOPS-Tech award at the end of the 2028-2029 award year.
- (2) Provides that students graduating from high school through the 2026-2027 school year may qualify for a TOPS-Tech award.
- (3) Provides that students entering high school in the 2024-2025 school year or thereafter shall not qualify for a TOPS-Tech award.
- (4) Provides that beginning with the 2029-2030 award year, the only TOPS awards provided shall be Opportunity, Performance, and Honors awards.

Effective July 1, 2029, except for transitional provisions, which are effective July 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 17:5002(A)(1) and (2) and (G)(1) and 5029(B)(3)(b)(ii) and (C)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:5123; Repeals R.S. 17:5002(D) and (E)(2), 5024(A)(1)(d), 5026, 5027(D)(1), and 5042)