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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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SB Original	DIGEST 2025 Regular Session	Abraham
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Present law (R.S. 17:10.1) requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to provide for a statewide system of accountability for schools and school districts based on student achievement and minimum standards for the approval of schools, including the creation of an honor roll recognizing all high-performing schools and high schools with graduation rates that exceed the state average.

Present law (R. S. 17:24.4) provides for the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) high-stakes testing of students in certain grade levels. Provides that students must obtain a certain level of mastery on the LEAP test to advance to the next grade level.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year the school and district accountability system is to utilize a nationally normed assessment, instead of the LEAP test.

Proposed law creates the Nationally Normed Assessment Task Force, to review and make a determination of the nationally normed assessment that best suits the intent and purpose of proposed law. The task force is to consist of 22 members, as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the governor, who is to serve as the chairman.
- (2) One member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (3) One member of the Senate appointed by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education.
- (4) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House.
- (5) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the chairman of the House Committee on Education.
- (6) One member appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana School Boards Association.
- (7) One member appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools.

- (8) Three members who are classroom teachers and who are appointed by the Louisiana Association of Educators, one of whom teaches in grades kindergarten through five, one of whom teaches in grades six through eight, and one of whom teaches in grades nine through 12.
- (9) Three members appointed by the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, one of whom teaches in grades kindergarten through five, one of whom teaches in grades six through eight, and one of whom teaches in grades nine through 12.
- (10) Three members appointed by the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana, and one of whom teaches in grades kindergarten through five, one of whom teaches in grades six through eight, and one of whom teaches in grades nine through 12.
- (11) Three members appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana Association of Principals, one of whom is a principal of a school with grades kindergarten through fifth grade, one of whom is a principal of a school with grades six through eight, and one of whom is a principal in a high school.
- (12) Three members who are appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, one of whom is a superintendent from a school district with less than 3,000 students, one of whom is a superintendent from a district with between 3,000 and 10,000 students, and one superintendent from a district with more than 10,000 students.

Proposed law provides that the members of the task force are to serve without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations. Provides that the chairman is to call the first meeting of the task force by July 1, 2025, and the governor's office is to provide support to the task force from its existing staff. The task force is to meet at least monthly to receive information and review the nationally normed assessments approved by BESE and select one assessment to be used in the school and district accountability system.

Proposed law provides that by Jan. 15, 2026, the task force is to submit a report to the governor, House and Senate committees on education, the state superintendent of education, and BESE, identifying the nationally normed assessment to be utilized for the school and district accountability system. Provides that the task force is to terminate on the date that the report is submitted. Provides that BESE is to notify each public school governing authority of the assessment to be used for the 2026-2027 school year in accordance with the report of the task force, within 30 days of receipt of the task force report.

Proposed law provides that the department is to submit a revised state plan to the U.S. Dept. of Education, pursuant to the Every Student Succeeds Act, that is aligned with the requirements of proposed law not later than 60 days after receipt of the task force report.

Proposed law provides that for the 2025-2026 school year, students in grades four, six, and seven are not be administered a state assessment in social studies.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:10.1(A)(2) and (B); adds R.S. 17:10.1(J))