

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 589

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:205(A), 216(A)(introductory paragraph) and (B), 407.101(G), and 416.21(N)(3)(b)(ii), to enact R.S. 17:2, and to repeal R.S. 17:202, 203, 205(B)(1) and (2), 215, 217, 220(B)(5) and (C), 253, and 407.101(E)(8) and R.S. 36:651(E)(2), relative to elementary and secondary education; to provide relative to reports required for submission to the legislature by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or state Department of Education; to provide that each law requiring such a report shall cease to be effective two years following the date of its first publication unless renewed by the legislature; to reduce the required number of annual meetings of the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission; to abolish the task force created by the commission; to abolish the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission and transfer certain commission duties to the department; to abolish the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2. Reports of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and state Department of Education

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any provision of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 requiring the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or the state Department of Education to submit a report as

defined in R.S. 24:771 shall cease to be effective on August first two years following the date of the first publication of the report unless renewed by the legislature.

B. If a bill providing for the renewal of a reporting requirement does not become law, the statute creating and continuing such report shall be construed as repealed on the applicable termination date.

Section 2. R.S. 17:205(A), 216(A)(introductory paragraph) and (B), 407.101(G), and 416.21(N)(3)(b)(ii) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§205. Environmental Education Section; staff; powers and duties; cooperation; funding

A. There is hereby created, within the state Department of Education, the environmental education section which shall ~~assist the commission and~~ perform responsibilities relative to education as provided for in this Subpart. Insofar as funds are appropriated, staff may be employed under the direction and control of the state superintendent of education and in accordance with policies of the department.

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§216. Curriculum framework

A. The ~~commission~~ state Department of Education shall develop a curriculum framework for establishing environmental education programs in all public and private elementary and secondary schools. The program shall integrate environmental concepts and skills into regular curricula, which include:

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B. ~~The commission shall work with the Department of Education to~~
department shall implement an environmental education program in grades K-12.

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§407.101. Early Childhood Care and Education Commission

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G. The commission shall meet at least ~~four~~ two times per year. At each meeting, the state Department of Education shall provide updates on how the commission's recommendations are being implemented. The commission shall make

any further recommendations it deems necessary to advance the vision and goals established pursuant to Subsection E of this Section.

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§416.21. Behavior of students with exceptionalities; use of seclusion and physical restraint

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(3)

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(b)

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(ii) The state Department of Education shall post the annual report on its website and submit a written copy to the Senate and House committees on education and the ~~Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline established pursuant to R.S. 17:253.~~

Section 3. R.S. 17:202, 203, 205(B)(1) and (2), 215, 217, 220(B)(5) and (C), 253, and 407.101(E)(8) and R.S. 36:651(E)(2) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 4.(A) This Section and Sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall become effective on August 1, 2025.

(B) Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on August 1, 2026.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____