

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION AND KNOX

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5024(A)(1), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to require schools to use a ten-point grading scale to assign grades used to calculate the minimum grade point average for initial qualification for a program award; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5024(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5024. Academic requirements

A.(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

~~(a)~~ (i) For an Opportunity Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

~~(b)~~ (ii) For a Performance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25.

~~(c)~~ (iii) For an Honors Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50.

~~(d)~~ (iv) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

(b) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year and for subsequent school years thereafter, each school shall use the ten-point grading scale provided for in R.S. 17:184 for the purpose of assigning grades used in the calculation of the minimum

grade point average required by Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph regardless of whether the school uses a different grading scale for other purposes. The provisions of this Subparagraph shall apply to public schools and nonpublic schools approved in accordance with R.S. 17:11.

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Section 2. All nonpublic schools that did not implement a ten-point grading scale in the 2024-2025 school year and submitted grades for students graduating in that school year prior to the effective date of this Act shall recalculate and resubmit recertified grades for any graduate with a cumulative grade point average of less than 3.50. The recalculation shall use the ten-point grading scale as required by R.S. 17:5024(A)(1) as amended and reenacted by this Act, and the nonpublic schools shall submit the recertified grades to the state Department of Education not later than August 31, 2025. The recalculation shall apply to courses in the Opportunity, Performance, and Honors or TOPS-Tech core curricula that were taken in the 2024-2025 school year by any graduating student applying for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students award. The recalculation shall use the same percentage values that were originally assigned by the teacher when final grades were initially given.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____