2025 Regular Session

ACT No. 268

HOUSE BILL NO. 372

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

| 1 | AN ACT | | |
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| 2 | To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5025.7(introductory paragraph) and 5026(F)(introductory | | |
| 3 | paragraph) and to repeal Section 6(A) and (D) of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular | | |
| 4 | Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to curricula; to provide relative to | | |
| 5 | Computer Science as a required high school course; to provide for alignment with | | |
| 6 | the core curriculum requirements for qualifications for TOPS awards; to provide for | | |
| 7 | applicability; and to provide for related matters. | | |
| 8 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: | | |
| 9 | Section 1. R.S. 17:5025.7(introductory paragraph) and 5026(F)(introductory | | |
| 10 | paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: | | |
| 1 | §5025.7. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, and | | |
| 12 | Honors Awards; students graduating in the 2027-2028 school year through | | |
| 13 | 2029-2030 school years | | |
| 14 | To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant | | |
| 15 | to this Chapter, a student who graduated during or after the 2027-2028 school year | | |
| 16 | but not later than the 2029-2030 school year shall have successfully completed a core | | |
| 17 | curriculum which consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows: | | |
| 18 | * * * | | |
| 19 | §5026. High school core curriculum requirements; TOPS-Tech | | |
| 20 | * * * | | |
| | | | |

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words $\underline{\text{underscored}}$ are additions.

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| 1 | F. For a student graduating during or after the 2027-2028 school year but | | |
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| 2 | prior to the 2030-2031 school year to be eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant | | |
| 3 | to this Chapter, the student shall have successfully completed the core curriculum | | |
| 4 | requirements of R.S. 17:5025 or the core curriculum defined as follows: | | |
| 5 | * * * | | |
| 6 | Section 2. Section 6.(A) and (D) of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the | | |
| 7 | Legislature of Louisiana are hereby repealed in their entirety. | | |
| 8 | Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b), (c), and (f) as amended by | | |
| 9 | Section 2 of Act No. 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana shall | | |
| 10 | apply as follows: | | |
| 11 | (A) R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) and (c), relative to the authorization that computer | | |
| 12 | science may count as math and science credits for a high school career major, shall apply to | | |
| 13 | students who enter the ninth grade during the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter. | | |
| 14 | (B) R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(f), relative to the requirement that one of the nine Jump | | |
| 15 | Start courses required for a high school career major be computer science unless computer | | |
| 16 | science is taken to fulfill a math or science credit, shall apply to students who enter the ninth | | |
| 17 | grade during the 2027-2028 school year and thereafter. | | |
| 18 | Section 4. The provisions of R.S. 17:280.3(A), as enacted by Section 4 of Act No. | | |
| 19 | 211 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, shall be implemented as | | |
| 20 | follows: | | |
| 21 | (A) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(1), relative to the requirement that each public high school | | |
| 22 | provide computer science instruction to its students, shall initially be implemented beginning | | |
| 23 | with the 2026-2027 school year. | | |
| 24 | (B) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(1), relative to the requirement that each public high school | | |
| 25 | student successfully complete a one-credit computer science course to qualify for high | | |
| 26 | school graduation, shall apply to students who enter the ninth grade during the 2027-2028 | | |
| 27 | school year and thereafter. | | |
| 28 | (C) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(2) shall initially be implemented beginning with the 2026- | | |
| 29 | 2027 school year. | | |

| 1 | (D) R.S. 17:280.3(A)(3)) shall initially be implemented beginning with the 2027 | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 2 | 2028 school year. | | |
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| | | SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES | |
| | | PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE | |
| | | GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA | |

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APPROVED: _____