

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 269

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

SCHOOLS. Provides for the "Charlie Kirk Success Sequencing Act" relative to student success. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:282.3, relative to student success; to provide for preventive education and
3 high school programs of study; to provide for success sequence; to provide for
4 definitions; to provide for methods; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for
5 rules; to provide for guidance; to provide for dissemination of information and
6 materials; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:282.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §282.3. Success sequence

10 A. The legislature finds and declares that data from the United States
11 Bureau of Labor Statistics National Longitudinal Survey of Youth and scientific
12 studies show the following evidence is established:

13 (1) Married couples who have children have higher family incomes and
14 lower poverty rates than their unmarried counterparts. The 2021 census data
15 showed that less than ten percent of children in two-parent homes lived in
16 poverty, while more than thirty percent of children in single-parent homes lived
17 in poverty.

1 (2) Over the past forty-five years, the number of children living with
2 married parents has declined significantly.

3 (3) Children that are reared in stable, married-parent families are more
4 likely to excel in school, and generally earn higher grade point averages than
5 children who are not.

6 (4) Children that are reared by married parents are approximately twice
7 as likely to graduate from college than children who are not.

8 (5) Children that are not reared in a home with married parents are
9 statistically twice as likely to end up in jail or prison before reaching thirty
10 years of age.

11 (6) Children that are reared by a single parent are more than three times
12 as likely to live in poverty than children raised by married parents.

13 (7) Among millennials who finished high school, entered the workforce,
14 and were married before having children, ninety-seven percent did not live in
15 poverty when they reached adulthood.

16 B. The purpose of this Section is to decrease the likelihood that students
17 will grow to adulthood and repeat the patterns that have been statistically
18 proven to increase rates of poverty.

19 C. As used in this Section, "success sequence" means an evidence-based
20 method that a person completes certain life goals in a certain order to minimize
21 the risk of poverty and maximize the likelihood of economic self-sufficiency.

22 D. Success sequence education shall be as follows:

23 (1) Obtain a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential.

24 (2) Enter into the workforce full time, either immediately following the
25 attainment of a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential, or
26 following the attainment of a postsecondary degree or credential.

27 (3) Marry before having children.

28 E. As part of any preventive program or high school program of study
29 provided to students in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board

1 **of Elementary and Secondary Education, each public and approved nonpublic**
 2 **school shall provide to each student information regarding the evidence-based**
 3 **findings of the success sequence to help them avoid poverty, forge a path to the**
 4 **middle class, and realize the American Dream.**

5 **F. The state Department of Education may engage research institutions,**
 6 **nonprofit organizations, and other interested stakeholders in an effort to**
 7 **assemble pertinent guidance, make public service announcements, videos,**
 8 **handouts, and other supplemental materials to assist schools in implementing**
 9 **the provisions of this Section.**

10 Section 2. This Act is known and may be cited as the "Charlie Kirk Success
 11 Sequence Act".

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)]

DIGEST

SB 269 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Edmonds

Proposed law provides that the legislature finds that data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics National Longitudinal Survey of Youth show all of the following:

- (1) That couples who have children within marriage have higher family incomes and lower poverty rates than their unmarried counterparts.
- (2) That 2021 census data showed that less than 10% of children in two-parent homes lived in poverty, while more than 30% of children in single-parent homes lived in poverty.
- (3) Over the past 40 years, the number of children living with married parents has declined significantly.
- (4) Children that are reared in stable, married-parent families are more likely to excel in school, and generally earn higher grade point averages than children who are not.
- (5) Children that are reared by married parents are approximately twice as likely to graduate from college than children who are not.
- (6) Children that are not reared in a home with married parents are statistically twice as likely to end up in jail or prison before reaching 30 years of age.
- (7) Children that are reared by a single parent are more than three times as likely to live in poverty than children raised by married parents.
- (8) Among millennials who finished high school, entered the workforce, and were married before having children, 97% percent did not live in poverty when they

reached adulthood.

Proposed law provides that the purpose of proposed law is to decrease the likelihood that students will grow to adulthood and repeat the patterns that have been statistically proven to increase rates of poverty.

Proposed law provides that "success sequence" means a method that a person completes certain life goals in a particular order to reduce the risk of poverty and increase the likelihood of economic self-sufficiency.

Proposed law provides that success sequence education is to be done in the following order:

- (1) Obtain a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential.
- (2) Enter into the workforce full time, either immediately following getting a high school diploma, career diploma, or following the attainment of a postsecondary degree or credential.
- (3) Marry before having children.

Proposed law provides that the success sequencing education is part of any preventive program or high school program of study. Proposed law requires that each public and approved nonpublic school shall provide to each student information regarding the evidence-based findings of the success sequence to help them avoid poverty, forge a path to the middle class, and realize the American Dream.

Proposed law provides that the La. Dept. of Education may engage research institutions, nonprofit organizations, and other interested stakeholders in an effort to assemble pertinent guidance, make public service announcements, videos, handouts, and other supplemental materials to assist schools in implementing proposed law.

Proposed law provides that proposed law may be cited as the "Charlie Kirk Success Sequence Act."

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 17:282.3)