
DIGEST

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Hardy

HB No. 31

Abstract: Requires BESE to adopt a policy requiring at least a "C" average for public school students in grades six through 12 to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Present law requires local school superintendents to cause principals and faculties of middle, junior high, and high schools to upgrade the academic standards of student athletes so that such athletes accomplish their maximum potential in academic endeavors while participating in interscholastic athletics.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt a policy requiring, as a minimum that the Louisiana High School Athletic Association 1984 scholastic rule (relative to minimum academic requirements, including a 1.5 grade point average) be adhered to by all high schools under its jurisdiction. Requires BESE annually to review the association's policy and to adopt rules as necessary to ensure that such minimum standards are maintained or upgraded.

Proposed law instead requires BESE to adopt a policy which at a minimum requires that to be eligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic activity, a public school student in grades six through 12 has attained at least a "C" average for all courses of study for the previous grading period and shall maintain, as of the conclusion of the most recent grading period, at least a "C" average for all courses of study for the year. Provides that a "C" average shall be as determined by the governing authority of the school in which the student is enrolled. Requires BESE annually to review its policy and adopt rules as necessary to ensure that such minimum standards are maintained or upgraded.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:176(B) and (C))