Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 100

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARTER, AUBERT, CARMODY, CHANDLER, CHANEY, EDWARDS, HOFFMANN, RICHARDSON, RITCHIE, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, AND PATRICIA SMITH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to school readiness assessment

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:391.11, relative to school readiness assessment; to provide relative to school readiness tests; to provide relative to the selection, type, and content of such tests; to provide relative to the reporting of the results of such tests; to provide relative to terminology; to provide relative to implementation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:391.11 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§391.11. School readiness ~~screening;~~ assessment; kindergarten instrument selection; administration; reporting

A. ~~Beginning with the 1987-1988 school year and thereafter, each city and parish~~ The governing authority of each public school ~~system~~ offering kindergarten classes shall require that every child entering kindergarten for the first time be given a ~~nationally recognized~~ valid and reliable readiness ~~screening.~~ assessment. The results of this ~~screening~~ assessment shall be used ~~in placement~~ for measuring student readiness for kindergarten and for planning instruction. ~~The pupil progression plan for each school system shall include criterion for placement.~~

B. The state Department of Education shall review the available ~~nationally recognized~~ valid and reliable individually administered readiness tests and shall

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recommend to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education tests acceptable for use as provided in this Section. ~~The tests recommended by the state Department of Education shall include the capacity to measure a student's proficiency in vision and hearing using the present vision and hearing screening programs. Each school board may select one of the tests to be used in the system. The test selected and policies adopted for promotion to or enrollment in first grade shall be promulgated by each system in its pupil progression plan and curriculum guides.~~

C. Each child entering kindergarten for the first time shall be ~~screened~~ assessed at the beginning of the school year. The parent or guardian of each child shall be advised of the nature of the child's level of readiness.

D. Each ~~system~~ public school governing authority shall report to the state Department of Education ~~screening~~ assessment results by school on an annual basis by December first of each year as required by the state Department of Education.

E. The state shall pay the cost of state required ~~screening~~ assessment materials and reporting required by law or regulation pursuant to this Section.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be implemented as funds are available and shall be fully implemented by the 2015-2016 school year.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

Carter HB No. 100

Abstract: Provides relative to measuring student readiness for kindergarten.

Present law requires each city and parish school system to require that every child entering kindergarten for the first time be given a nationally recognized readiness screening.

Proposed law changes the standard for the instrument used to measure student readiness from a "nationally recognized readiness screening" to a "valid and reliable readiness assessment".

Present law provides that screening results are used in placement and for planning instruction. Also requires that the pupil progression plan for each school system include criterion for placement. Proposed law deletes the provision relative to the pupil progression

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plan, provides that the "assessment" rather than "screening" results are used for measuring student readiness for kindergarten instead of in placement, and otherwise retains present law.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to review the available tests and to recommend to BESE tests acceptable for use.

Present law requires that the tests recommended by the state Dept. of Education include the capacity to measure a student's proficiency in vision and hearing using the present vision and hearing screening programs; allows each school board to select one of the tests to be used in the system; and requires that the test selected and policies adopted for promotion to or enrollment in first grade be promulgated by each system in its pupil progression plan and curriculum guides. Proposed law deletes present law.

Proposed law provides for implementation of proposed law as funds are available, to be fully implemented by the 2015-2016 school year.

(Amends R.S. 17:391.11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill.

1. Changed the implementation of proposed law from subject to the availability of funds beginning with the 2012-2013 school year to as funds are available, to be fully implemented by the 2015-2016 school year.

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