ENROLLED

Regular Session, 2011

ACT No. 249

HOUSE BILL NO. 100

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARTER, AUBERT, BISHOP, CARMODY, CHANDLER, CHANEY, DIXON, EDWARDS, FOIL, HARDY, HARRISON, HINES, HOFFMANN, NOWLIN, PEARSON, RICHARDSON, RITCHIE, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, TALBOT, AND WILLIAMS

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

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, in consultation with the Child Care Association of Louisiana, the Louisiana Head Start Association, and BrightStart, Louisiana's Early Childhood Advisory Council, the available ~~nationally recognized~~ valid and reliable individually administered readiness tests and shall recommend to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education tests

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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.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

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